

## Dr Owen expected to postpone visit to Rhodesia

The planned visit to Rhodesia later this month by Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, now seems unlikely to take place until prospects about a settlement become clearer.

Two factors which have upset the timing are the split in the ruling Rhodesian Front and the return of the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, who may attract popular support.

## Smith party split upsets timing

By David Spenser  
Diplomatic Correspondent

Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, is having second thoughts about Rhodesia. Instead of proceeding at full tilt, in the hope of a quick settlement, he has decided to slow down the pace. Although he said yesterday that he has not finally made up his mind, he will probably not go to southern Africa later this month, but defer his visit until the prospects become a little clearer.

The sense of gloom about Rhodesia in Whitehall, never far from the surface, is breaking through again. The United States, which is obviously the senior partner in the Anglo-American enterprise, despite the formal legal position, is counselling caution. Accordingly Dr Owen has decided to slow down.

Several important elements may become clearer in the coming weeks. First, the dust raised by the split in the ruling Rhodesian Front has to be allowed to settle. As things stand, it is impossible to gauge the strength of the opposition to his leadership.

Secondly, the return to Rhodesia this weekend of the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole raises a question mark about African attitudes. If Mr Sithole attracts popular support, this might have a bearing on Bishop Abel Muzorewa's position in the country, or even lead to a new attempt by Mr Smith to promote his favoured 'internal solution'.

Neither Britain nor the United States supports such an approach, under which Mr Smith would attempt to reach a settlement with African leaders

in Rhodesia on his own, for the simple reason that it has been rejected by all the so-called front line states, and would have no international backing. Nevertheless, Mr Smith may still try it, and while his manoeuvring goes on, less attention will be given to the Anglo-American consultations on drawing up a new constitution.

Dr Owen will have a report from Mr John Graham, the Foreign Office official in charge of these consultations, on his return from Salisbury early next week. It is encouraging that Mr Smith has now apparently accepted the principle of one man, one vote; but there are many other key elements in the British proposals which have to be settled, and no quick agreement is still a long way off.

Moreover, the hardening attitude of the Patriotic Front and its endorsement by the Organisation of African Unity as the rightful liberator of an independent Zimbabwe, have not made the task of negotiation any easier. Mr Nkomo, who is growing in influence and has an effective fighting force behind him, has taken to produce constitutional proposals of his own, however, which will clearly be another factor in the equation.

In these changing and confusing circumstances, Dr Owen's feeling that it would be wiser to postpone his African visit is understandable. He still intends to visit southern Africa at an early date. But his thinking is turning away from a quick solution and more towards ways in which, more modestly perhaps, the British Government can bring a constructive influence

to bear in shaping events which have their own momentum. Frederick Clerly writes from Salisbury: The Anglo-American consultative team led by Mr Graham and Mr Steven Low, the United States Ambassador to Zambia had talks yesterday with senior government officials. Both envoys arrived in the Rhodesian capital late on Thursday from Lusaka via Johannesburg.

Yesterday's meetings before and after lunch were held in government offices, but Mr Smith, the Prime Minister, did not join in discussions. He is expected to see the group today.

Lusaka: Zambia has made plans to call in foreign forces if they are asked to help repulse attacks from Rhodesia and has accepted in principle offers of military support from countries including Somalia and Cuba, President Kaunda said here.

The President did not name the nearest from which he was expecting aid. But he told a press conference: "When the time comes, we have alerted one or two countries to ask for military aid - we have selected them, and they are ready to come."

Dar es Salaam: President Nyerere of Tanzania will discuss southern Africa with President Carter at Camp David next month and will also meet Mr Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister and Mr Manley, Prime Minister of Jamaica, in their own capacity for talks on the same subject, it was announced here.-AP.

Sithole conversion, page 4

## Renaissance masterpiece secured for the nation

By Geraldine Norman  
Sale Room Correspondent

There was a British triumph at Christie's yesterday when the National Gallery, represented by Sir Geoffrey Agnew, bought the Renaissance masterpiece, Parmigianino's "Portrait of a Collector", for £550,000.

Bidding started at £100,000. For most of the afternoon the bidding was against Speelman, who represented a small consortium of dealers. When he dropped out, Richard Feigen, from New York, put in one bid which was capped by Agnew. Then came a flurry from the auctioneer, where the Louvre had hoped to bid discreetly. Someone had inadvertently kicked out the plug of the telephone link with the main sale room. A clerk was sent at the double to wave his arms at the auctioneer from the back of the crowd. The bidding resumed but again capped by Agnew's, who emerged the victor.

As the hammer fell, Sir Geoffrey Agnew rose to his feet and, calling for silence, announced that he had bought the painting on behalf of the trustees of the National Gallery.

The painting will cost the gallery much more than £550,000. There is buyer's premium payable to Christie's of £55,000, that he commission payable to Agnew's. Sir Geoffrey would not comment on this yesterday.

Mr Michael Levey, director of the National Gallery, said that most of the money would come out of the gallery's annual purchase grant. The amount to £990,000 a year but some money was left over from last year. This financial year the gallery has already had to meet the cost of the Droaia portrait of Madame de Pompadour from Menemore, supposed to be a £300,000. After yesterday's purchase there can be little left.

The painting had been on loan to the National Gallery since 1958; it belonged to the Wrotham Park Picture Settlement, and was recently removed by the Byng family for sale.

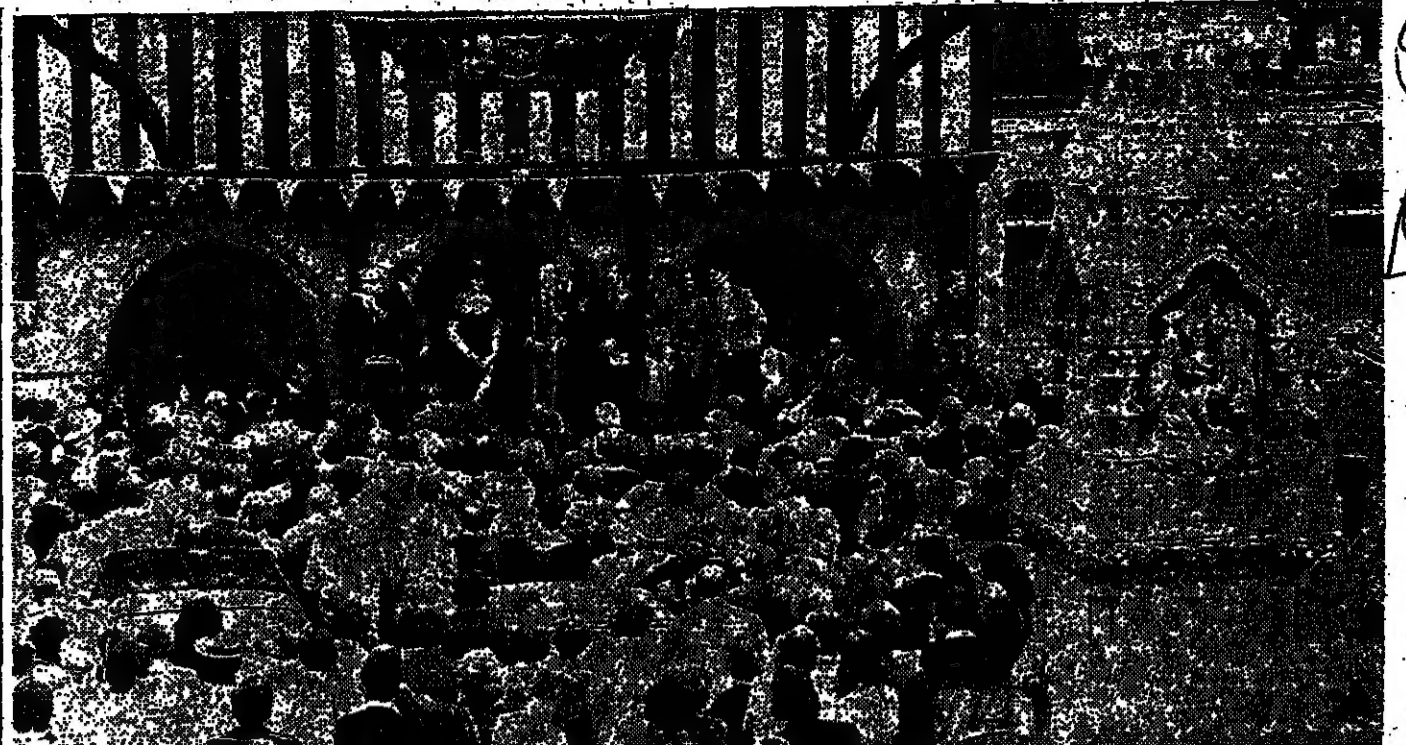
Mr Levey explained yesterday the main reason why the trustees decided to bid high. First, it is a fine High Renaissance portrait, a genre of which the gallery has few examples. Secondly, it complements the two other works by the great Mannerist artist which the gallery owns. One is a large altarpiece, the other a small St Catherine. The "Collector", a sophisticated and slightly sinister portrait, represents the third facet of the artist's work.

The painting is now described as a "Portrait of a Collector". It is a portrait of a richly dressed man in a red robe, seated at a table with a book and a vase of flowers. The man is looking towards the viewer with a slight smile.

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Francisco Baisardi, a collector friend and patron of Parmigianino's, is one suggested identification. Mr Levey said yesterday that Mr Cecil Gould, who is writing the catalogue of the gallery's Italian school pictures, will look into the matter.

Photograph, page 3



Saffron Walden yesterday, where the declaration of Mr Alan Haselhurst's victory for the Conservatives was announced.

## Tory doubles majority at Saffron Walden

By George Clark  
Political Correspondent

Even with a lower turnout of voters, the Conservative candidate at the Saffron Walden by-election, Mr Alan Haselhurst, aged 40, a former Conservative MP for North Norfolk, who had been expelled there for his criticism of Labour policies, to hold on to second place. He did just that, much to his credit, although the Liberal share of the poll was cut from 30 to 25 per cent.

Compared with other by-elections, the result was a surprise. The real test, in relation to the balance of power at Westminster and the continuing threat to the Government, was whether there would be a large-scale desertion of former

Liberal Party supporters as a result of the party's association with Labour policies. Mr Haselhurst, the Liberal leader, had acknowledged that a serious Liberal setback in this constituency, where his party came second in both elections in 1974, would have been an adverse verdict on his decision to prop up the Labour Government.

It was the daunting task of Mr Andrew Phillips, aged 33, a solicitor and former Labour candidate at Norwich and North Norfolk, who had been expelled there for his criticism of Labour policies, to hold on to second place. He did just that, much to his credit, although the Liberal share of the poll was cut from 30 to 25 per cent.

Compared with other by-election performances by the Liberals, his was a magnificent effort. His 25 per cent, in spite of the Tories' suggestion that a Liberal vote was a vote for socialism and to convince his doubting public that the Liberals were indeed having a moderating influence on Labour and Conservative extremists.

It must be said again that he argued more convincingly than even Liberal MPs at Westminster for a continuance of the pact with Labour, as a means of getting more moderate and generally accepted policies from the Government. Whether he would have succeeded, as well as he has, in taking up a position on the Liberal's attitude to statutory wage controls, Continued on page 2, col 1

A. Haselhurst (C)	22,820
A. Phillips (L)	10,225
S. Stansham (Lab)	5,945
O. Smedley (Anti-Comm Mbr)	1,518
C majority	12,437

General election: Sir Peter Kirk (C), 21,291; F. P. D. Moore (L), 14,770; E. Gower (Lab), 12,852; C majority, 5,521.

The changes in voting support since 1974 were:			
	1977	1974	Change
C	55.7%	43.7%	+12%
L	25.2%	30.5%	-5.3%
Lab	14.6%	26.0%	-11.4%
Anti-EEC	4.5%	-	-
Pol	64.7%	78.1%	-13.4%
Electorate	62,882	62,383	+499
Swing from Lab to C			11.7%

## Albania signals end of alliance with China

harsh ideological attack in China has signalled the end of Albania's 16-year-old alliance with Peking. The Communist Party newspaper criticised China's closer links with the United States, rejecting the "three great powers" policy which the Third World has followed. It attacked the main revolutionary force and formed a "front" against both imperialist

superpowers. Such a theory not only ignored the country's socialist but constituted an anti-Marxist, opportunistic stand inviting the oppressed millions to abandon the revolution, it said. There may be strong domestic reasons for this. Mr Hoxha, the leader of the party, would wish to follow the Chinese example and establish better relations with the West.

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## Guardsman gets 7 years for rape

Sentence of seven years' imprisonment was passed by Mr Justice Milmo at the Central Criminal Court on Peter Langley, aged 19, of the Grenadier Guards, who was said to have twice raped, robbed and kidnapped a housewife aged 42.

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## Green Paper had to be rewritten

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, had to rewrite large parts of the Green Paper on schools in England and Wales after the final draft had been rejected by the Cabinet. The new version is expected to be published during the week after next.

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## Attack on EEC: The European Community comes under attack in a document to be discussed by Labour Party policy makers next week

Paris: New York's continued ban on Concorde seen as "major affair" in Franco-US relations.

Page 3

## Living standards 'back to levels of 4 years ago'

By Caroline Addison  
More striking evidence of the fall in living standards which has stiffened union opposition to further wage restraint came in official figures published yesterday.

They show that personal incomes, after allowing for tax and inflation, dropped by 2 per cent in the first three months of this year. The fall, which is larger than most recent estimates, came on top of a 3 per cent drop in the last quarter of 1976. Living standards are back to their levels of four years ago.

As pensions and other social security benefits have risen more rapidly than wages and salaries, those in employment have suffered an even larger fall in spending power.

To some extent people have compensated for falling real incomes by saving less. The proportion of post-tax income saved fell sharply in the last three months of 1976 when the pay peg policy on real incomes began to take effect. It rose slightly in the first quarter of this year to 12.6 per cent, but is still well below the 14 to 15 per cent levels of the

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past three years. There was then an unexpected rise in the level of savings, which had averaged about 8 per cent in the 1960s.

Although the drop in savings in the last quarter of 1976 enabled people to keep up their spending in real terms, it fell by 2 per cent in the first three months of this year. The latest figures for retail sales suggest that consumer spending continued to be depressed in the second quarter of the year.

Wages and salaries have been rising strictly in line with the pay policy, but company profits have continued to recover sharply. Yesterday's figures revised upwards the level of company profits in the January to March period (both before and after stock appreciation).

## Esso and BP cut price of petrol by up to 3p

By Roger Visher  
Energy Correspondent

Two more big suppliers of petrol, Esso and British Petroleum, reduced the price of petrol by up to 3p a gallon from midnight last night in response to similar cuts announced by Shell on Thursday.

The three groups supply over half the petrol sold in Britain. Texaco, Mobil and Fina, which control another fifth of the market, are still discussing the situation and are expected to announce their decision on prices on Monday.

The cut in scheduled wholesale prices by Esso and BP is only 2.5p a gallon against Shell's 2.65p. But after a reduction in value-added tax, the decline in pump prices should match Shell's 3p a gallon for two, three and four-star petrol.

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Esso is cutting the wholesale price of five-star petrol by only 0.5p a gallon (1p at the pump) against BP's reduction of 1.5p (2p) for five-star petrol.

Esso and BP are also absorbing most of the discounts they offer to many of their garages involved in the cut

## Tuneful farewell to Mr Jack Jones

Britain's largest trade union, the Transport and General Workers' Union, sang a farewell song to its retiring leader, Mr Jack Jones, with a rendition of "For he's a jolly good fellow" and a standing ovation at its conference at Douglas, Isle of Man.

Mr Brian Mathers, regional secretary, said: "He will go down as one of the great union leaders of our time. He has worked more than any man to make this a members' union."

Mr Jones said: "Some people have described me as an emperor or a king. All I have ever been is a soldier in the great army of labour and I will remain that."

## Guatemala sees Belize pledge as victory

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

After the sudden reinforcement of the British garrison in Belize and the appearance of a British frigate off the coast, all is reported to be quiet in the area.

With Guatemala now agreeing to continue talks on the Belizean territory, it is tempting to conclude that gunboat diplomacy works.

The Guatemalan claim is that, because Britain failed to fulfil a boundary treaty of 1859 relating to Belize City and free passage of vehicles through Belize.

## Nato may have neutron bomb in two years

From David Cross

A new generation of tactical nuclear weapons designed to kill enemy soldiers by radiation without damaging civilian areas could be deployed in Central Europe within the next two years if their production is approved by President Carter and Congress.

The new weapon, known as the neutron bomb, has already been tested at least once under the Nevada desert and full production could begin in October, 1979. The new bomb would be fired from 156mm and 280mm howitzers.

According to Defence Department officials, the development of the neutron bomb has been under way in the United States since the 1950s. The new neutron warhead produces intense radiation, but restricts fire and blast damage to a small area of up to about 300 yards. Areas hit by it can be occupied only a few hours after the blast.

The officials say that the possibility of using neutron bombs was first discussed with American NATO allies three years ago. At the last meeting of the nuclear planning group in Ottawa last month, there was a general consensus that the deployment of the neutron bomb would enhance the alliance's defence capability.

Not surprisingly, however, there has been less unanimity in Congress and among the American public about the advisability of going ahead with the deployment of the neutron bomb.

Funding for production of the warhead is going through the Senate and opponents have threatened a filibuster in an attempt to sabotage the project when discussions resume next week. Senator Mark Hatfield, a Republican from Oregon, has called the weapon "inconceivable".

President Carter, who is reported to have only learnt about the new weapon when news leaked to the press last month, has promised to make his own decision known on whether to authorize production after advice from the Pentagon and the Energy Research and Development Administration, which builds the bomb. They are expected to come forward with their opinions by the middle of next month.

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And personable.  
But when you go for a job...



there's this terrible problem. The man across the desk asks you a question. You know the answer, but you don't reply. Because you can't hear a word he's saying.

Every casual encounter that most of us take for granted can be an enormous problem to the deaf. Communicating with people at work. Ordering a meal in a restaurant.

The RNID tries to help deaf people live with their affliction. To provide this help costs an enormous amount of money. And money, today, is painfully hard to find.

If you can hear, will you be thankful? And help someone less fortunate by means of a donation, a mention in your Will or by Deed of Covenant. Please do something. And do it today.

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مكتبة النجف



## HOME NEWS

## Press Council attacks union 'censorship' over Grunwick affair

Press freedom and freedom of expression are easily lost and difficult to recover, newspaper industry unions were told yesterday.

The warning came in a Press Council statement on incidents at *The Observer* and *The Sun* when printing workers objected to material which the editors proposed to publish referring to the Grunwick affair.

The council said the incidents were "blatant and inexcusable instances of press censorship".

The *Observer* proposed, on June 26, to publish an advertisement by the National Association for Freedom. The machine minders' chapel (office branch) of the National Graphical Association and the machine operators' chapel of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel (Nasopa) protested at the reference to the Grunwick dispute in the advertisement.

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## Police evict women from Ministry of Defence

By Michael Horsnell

About twenty women protesting against the release of Thomas Holdsworth, the guardman in the recent sex case, ran past security guards into the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall yesterday.

A woman of 25 who said she was four months pregnant was among those evicted by police about 15 minutes later. She was discharged after an examination at Westminster Hospital.

The incident occurred at the end of a march from Trafalgar Square to Whitehall by Women Against Rape, the protest organization. Its members broke up a High Court hearing last month when Lord Justice Roskill, who presided in the Holdsworth case, was sitting with two other judges.

The women reached the third floor of the ministry building and disrupted a meeting before the police arrived. Some resisted but there were no arrests.

Miss Ruth Hall, one of the women involved, said they were attempting to find Mr. Mulley, Secretary of State for Defence, to ask him to appear at a public trial in Trafalgar Square on July 16.



Members of the Women against Rape organization after the demonstration.

Women Against Rape say they have "summoned" Lord Justice Roskill, Mr. Justice Wainman and Mr. Justice Slynn, the three Holdsworth case judges, to appear with senior Cabinet members.

Guardman Holdsworth, aged 19, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for indecently assaulting a girl of 17 and causing her grievous bodily harm. That was reduced by the Court of Appeal to a suspended sentence of six months.

Ms. Hall said they would be considering a complaint against the police action yesterday. She added: "This campaign is going to continue."

## Guardsman gets seven years for armed rape

A young guardsman who raped, robbed and kidnapped a housewife, aged 42, and drove her 150 miles at gunpoint, was jailed at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for seven years.

The court was told that after her ordeal, she was so frightened of visitors, she had made a fortress of her home with chains, padlocks and bolts on doors.

Mr. Justice Milmo told Peter Langley, aged 19, a Grenadier Guards recruit: "The story told is one that could not fail to appeal to any decent person."

"There are only two matters which could possibly afford any mitigation, and because of that I pass a sentence less than would otherwise have been the case. You were 18 at the time, and because of your plea this unfortunate lady has been saved the additional trauma of going into the witness box."

Guardsman Langley, of Penarth, Amlwch, Gwynedd, admitted raping Mrs. X twice, at her home and in a caravan, at the end of her 12-hour journey to Wales, kidnapping her, possessing a rifle while committing rape, stealing Army ammunition, and robbing her of £26.

He was sentenced to terms of seven years for the rape and gun charges, five years for kidnapping and robbery, and four for the ammunition charges.

Mr. Michael Hill, for the prosecution, said Mrs. X lived in Camberley, Surrey. Guardsman Langley, due to pass out from his regiment four days before the offences, stole the ammunition, drew out his rifle, and left the camp without leave.

He called at another woman's home first on the previous evening. She had been saved the additional trauma of going into the witness box.

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to find Guardsman Langley pointing the gun at her. He forced his way in, demanded the keys of her car, then forced her into the bedroom to commit the first rape while still holding the rifle. He took £25 from her purse and told her to drive the car to Anglesey.

Before leaving she left a note for her husband which said: "I have been taken by a man from the IRA. Do not inform anyone until he calls."

Mr. Hill said that then began the journey which was to end in Anglesey, where she was again raped.

Guardsman Langley told her a bogus story about a non-existent wife and children having been raped and murdered in Rhodesia, said he was getting his own back, and spoke also of contract killing in the United States.

Mrs. X escaped when Guardsman Langley told her to stop the car near a public house in

Anglesey. She found help in a house and her car number was given to police.

Guardsman Langley was seen by the police driving erratically and stopped. Inspector Melvyn Williams and Police Constable Wynford Davies, who were commended by the judge for their bravery, leapt on Guardsman Langley, and the rifle, loaded and cocked with the safety catch on, was recovered from the back of the car. The bayonet was found in the car.

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## Chances dim for Bill to reform abortion law

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The chances of the Abortion (Amendment) Bill reaching report stage next Friday, let alone becoming law, had dimmed greatly by the time the committee stage adjourned at 12.50 pm yesterday after a sitting of 21 hours. By last night it was clear that two private members' Bills ahead of it in the queue will take some time on Friday since both have numerous amendments tabled.

The committee sat for 50 hours this week on the Abortion (Amendment) Bill, including two all-night sessions, and theoretically could spend a similar amount of time next week. By the end of the sitting yesterday only six of the 15 clauses had been completed. Mr. Ian Aldridge, Labour MP for Tower Hamlets and a member of the Tribune group, interrupted the proceedings yesterday to present each of the five Labour women MPs with a red rose in congratulatory token on their filibustering tactics.

In spite of pressure on the Government it is unlikely that time will be allowed for the Bill, which will then go through the usual procedures for private Bills. That means reaching report stage by stand a chance of law.

But ahead of it in the queue are four private members' Bills from the Tory, Labour and Liberal benches, including the Arms Bill, which is a serious contender for some time considering talking it through the House of Commons (Scotland) Bill, from Mr. George Younger, Tory MP for Ayr, amendments to be considered on Friday.

If the Abortion (Amendment) Bill does achieve reading next Friday it is still some way from becoming law, as it would still have to go through the usual procedures for private Bills, which would take the end of July, giving even less chance of time to become law.

Mr. Aldridge said yesterday he accepted the answer given in the Commons on Thursday that the report could not be published because of proceedings continuing against Mr. Graham Barton, a former Leyland executive.

The written answer, given after advice from the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Attorney General, stated simply that the report was not to be published. It did not say whether it would be published after Mr. Barton's trial.

The report concerns allegations made in the Daily Mail that British Leyland was involved in bribery to gain overseas orders.

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## In brief

15 years' jail for killing boy

Stephen Handley, 15, was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for the murder of a boy who was found dead in a ditch near a farm in Suffolk.

Mr. Handley, of the Dock Road, Ipswich, was found guilty of manslaughter of Selvadurai, of Woking, grounds of diminished liability.

Bomb hoaxes strike again

Bomb hoaxes disrupted a second successful day of work in about 15 operations. A new paramilitary force, the Loyalist Prisoners' Force, is directing a campaign aimed at the release of "loyalist" prisoners at Crumlin Prison, Belfast.

Schools aid research

Energy-saving devices are being installed in six schools and results of the new scheme, the Energy Group, the Government has announced.

Red Devils injured

Two members of the Red Devils parachute team injured when they fell spectators at a fête at School, Fleetwood, Lancashire yesterday. Two children also hurt.



## HOME NEWS

## Schools Green Paper rewritten after a rejection by Cabinet

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

After at least half a dozen redraftings the Green Paper on schools in England and Wales, submitted by Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, was rejected by the Cabinet.

It is believed to be the first time that a Green Paper has been rejected by the Cabinet, and it is thought that the Government will be forced to withdraw it.

Mrs Williams, who was told to take the Green Paper back to her department, took it largely upon herself to rewrite it with the help of a senior official. On Thursday a shorter, less detailed version was completed and it is now with the printers. It is expected to be ready to be published, only slightly behind schedule, during the week after next.

The Cabinet's objection to the original "final" version was not on the ground of policy—there is very little new policy contained in the document—but on aesthetic and tactical grounds. It was felt that the approach, the line believed to

be favoured by Mr James Hamilton, the Permanent Secretary, and not so much of the kid-gloved, almost deliberately obsequious approach favoured by Mrs Williams.

So many ministerial and official hands had been at the document by the time that it went to the Cabinet's home affairs committee, that it resembled, in the words of one Whitehall source, "more of a dog's dinner than a good rich broth".

It did, however, manage to pass the home affairs committee, chaired by Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, but the Cabinet, which was chaired by the Prime Minister, found it too much to stomach.

Mr Callaghan, who initiated the "great debate" on education with his speech at Ruskin College, Oxford, last October, has been asking a close interest in the progress of the consultative document which has emerged as a result of the debate, hearing in mind too, no doubt, that it could prove to be the foundation of an Education Act to replace that of 1944.

## Direct elections storm gathers momentum

By Michael Heseltine

Labour's gathering storm over direct elections to the European Parliament will further cloud next week when party policy-makers discuss a document highly critical of the European Community.

Although the document has yet to be approved by the full national executive committee, there is little doubt that the left-dominated NEC will sanction its contents and a subsequent debate at the party's annual conference in October.

It is the Government's determination over the direct elections Bill, the document states that nothing should be done to increase the powers of the European Assembly. It argues that the Labour Party must ensure that clauses expressly preventing any increase in the powers of the European Assembly are written into any legislation authorizing direct elections.

The main objective of the opponents of the EEC, who yesterday expressed delight at the size of their vote in the Commons debate on Thursday, is to get a "red line" mandate at the annual conference protesting at the operation of the European Community and all that flows from it.

Incorporated in the draft document, which goes before a joint meeting of party's home and international committees on Wednesday, is the demand that any powers must be the subject of a referendum. The document attempts to commit the party against a system of proportional representation which is enshrined in the Government's agreement with the Liberal Party. It recog-

nizes the needs and electoral history of other members of the Community but states that the party cannot accept that elections in the United Kingdom should take place under a common system which would inevitably mean proportional representation.

It declares the party's opposition to holding direct elections at any time other than on the same day as the United Kingdom's parliamentary elections, and that the party will oppose the idea that elections should take place on the same day in each member state.

If those proposals are approved by the joint meeting and, later, the annual conference, the Labour Party will be placed in an embarrassing position with the party, although there are sufficient routes through which it can escape and therefore avoid a clash between the Administration and the national executive committee.

There is doubt, for example, whether a system of proportional representation based on a regional list system will be approved by the Commons, and therefore the Government, while honouring the commitment to the Liberal, will be able to continue the relationship with Mr Steel and his colleagues.

None the less, the proposition that direct elections to the European Assembly should be held at the same time as Westminster elections runs counter to the European Community's objectives and time-scale for direct elections and consequently is likely to meet strong opposition from the pro-European on the national executive committee.

Leading article, page 13

## men rescued

Seamen were rescued by the North Sea yesterday after abandoning their ship, the German coaster, Erika, which had collided with Spanish ship off the Suffolk coast.

## Fishermen's watchdog

Fishermen in north-east England are getting a patrol boat to protect them from Scottish trawlers during the winter sprats season after complaints that the Scots are driving them out.

## Drugs guidance for old people's homes

John Roper, Health Services Correspondent, says that guidance on the health of residents in old people's homes is being distributed to heads of 5,332 local authority and private homes in England and Wales on Monday. The booklet, prepared by the Department of Health and Social Security, says that as the average age of residents rises, the resulting increasing mental and physical frailty, the drugs will be needed.

It would be responsible for the custody and administration of medicines. The nature and quantity of medicines kept in a home, their administration, and when no longer needed, were therefore becoming more important. The changing circumstances imposed a special responsibility on the staff in prescribing for residents in old people's homes.

On admissions, the booklet says that many local authorities were issuing a high proportion of emergency, which could lead to an uncoordinated use of resources. Health and social service authorities should establish a procedure for assessing an elderly person's needs before admission. When residents were admitted as an emergency they should be assessed as soon as possible afterwards.



Public acquisition: "Portrait of a Collector", by Parmigianino (1503-40), was acquired by the National Gallery at Christie's yesterday for £650,000. With buyer's premium the price was £715,000, and will use up most of the gallery's annual purchase grant of £950,000. The portrait was one of the last important paintings by Parmigianino still in private hands.

## Polytechnic staffs' pay plight

By Geraldine Norman

Salary increases of between a third and a half are needed if polytechnic teachers are to regain the standard of living they had three years ago, according to a report by the Association of Polytechnic Teachers, published today.

The report shows that while the salaries of polytechnic teachers have risen by between 40 per cent for the lowest paid lecturer and 25 per cent for a head of department since the 1974 report, the cost of living has increased by about 72 per cent. Average earnings have risen by about 69 per cent in the same period.

The lowest-paid lecturer at a polytechnic earns about £3,500, a senior lecturer, about £6,900, a reader £7,900 and a top grade head of department £9,500. The association estimates that polytechnic teachers have suffered more than any other group of workers under phase two of the pay policy.

## Writ on council over 50 houses

A writ has been served on Southwark Council, London, in an attempt to stop it demolishing a row of terrace houses in Moorcreef Street, Peckham. Tenants of the 50 houses threatened by the council's plan to build a supermarket and a car park on the site of their homes are seeking a High Court injunction to restrain Southwark from demolishing or gutting the houses.

Calls for a public inquiry on the future of Moorcreef Street have been supported by Mr Silkin, the Attorney General, who is also the local MP.

## Unexpected bids for still lifes

By Geraldine Norman

Christie's sale of Old Master paintings yesterday achieved some of the most eccentric results of any recent auction in this field. Some paintings were sold at prices far below their expected value, while others, mostly those in indifferent condition or not very attractive, leaving 35 out of 117 lots unsold.

At the same time pretty works, especially still lifes of flowers and fruit, frequently ran to prices several times higher than expected. There was a new auction record for Francesco Guardi when his delicate view of the lagoon de San Clemente, Venice, was sold for £10,000 (estimate £2,000-£25,000). Brod also paid £16,000 (estimate £12,000-£15,000) for a tiny Guardi cypripedium.

Richard Green paid £95,000 (estimate £20,000-£30,000) for a simple brown-toned seascape by Jan van Goyen in nice condition, a reader £7,900 and a top grade head of department £9,500. He was also the leading purchaser of fruit, paying £90,000 (estimate £20,000-£35,000) for Peaches and a still life of fruit by a Spanish artist. There was also a sale of a still life by a Spanish artist, a reader £7,900 and a top grade head of department £9,500. He was also the leading purchaser of fruit, paying £90,000 (estimate £20,000-£35,000) for Peaches and a still life of fruit by a Spanish artist.

But even fruit was not a consistent winner, Jacob Meirens' "Baskets of Grapes, Peaches, Lemons and other Fruits" went for £4,200 (estimate £7,000-£10,000). Only one school seemed capable of appreciating buyers whether the paintings were in good, bad or indifferent condition: the Flemish landscape school of the Brueghels. A Polish bought most of them, paying £14,000 (estimate £5,000-£20,000) for "An Extensive Landscape" by Philips Koninck, £108,000 (estimate £20,000-£120,000) for "A Panoramic view of Olinda" by Brazil by Frans Post and £90,000 (estimate £80,000-£120,000) for "Flemish proverbial illustration" by Pieter Brueghel the Younger.

A large "Crucifixion" panel by Alchierio da Zevio was unsold at £45,000 (estimate £20,000-£100,000). The sale made £2,424,750 with a 3 per cent unsold. A sale of 51 Oriental carpets, textiles and bric-a-brac went to a collector in Brompton Road for £82,000 with every piece sold. The auctioneer suggested that the success of his sale, in which the highest price for a carpet was £1,000, reflected the continuing demand for collectors' items, while prices for carpets were weak. A Khoum carpet from East Turkestan made £5,200 (estimate £5,000-£55,000).

## Children over 14 to pay double for season tickets

By a Staff Reporter

Schoolchildren over 14 will be charged double for their season tickets next year when concessionary fares end, British Rail confirmed yesterday. Only four days ago it announced a general fares freeze this year.

The increase will save British Rail £1m a year. An official said it was part of the January 2 package of increases approved last year by the Price Commission and that local authorities, which pay for about nine-tenths of the season tickets, were informed in January.

"The reason the withdrawal of concessionary fares was not implemented was in order to see if they were properly advised," he said.

British Rail also said that more than 40,000 bicycle tickets had been issued in the five weeks since it announced that bicycles would be carried free. That compares with only 11,000 tickets during the whole of last year when they were charged half-price.

No application form for a ticket will now be needed and British Rail will consider whether free cycle travel should continue when the present offer closes on September 30.

## Equity to meet theatre owners on closure fear

By Kenneth Gosling

Officials of Equity, the actors' union, are to meet the management of Howard and Wyndham's next week to discuss the union's claim that the company is about to sell its provincial theatre holdings.

Actors with placards demonstrated outside the company's offices in the West End of London yesterday. The union is worried that theatres owned by the company in Liverpool, Manchester and Oxford may be sold.

Mr Vincent Burke, a union official, said the Arts Council was considering what could be done by way of making avail-

able cash in guarantees for touring companies using the local theatres. Mr David Crouch, Conservative MP for Canterbury, who promoted the Bill leading to the establishment of the Theatres Trust, said no planning permission for a change of use of theatre buildings could be granted without reference to the trust.

"It is suggested there should be a big grant of funds, about £5m, to save these theatres," he said. "However, the Theatres Trust is really meant to be more like the National Trust and not a rescue fund for this kind of money."

## Synod to seek views on clergy's pay differentials

By Clifford Longley

Religious Affairs Correspondent

The alleged £1,000-a-year difference between the annual pay of archdeacons and that of the average parson was mentioned during the General Synod of the Church of England yesterday as the most glaring anomaly in the present pay structure of the church.

Canon G. Clayton, of Salisbury, said that the gap was larger than the difference between a newly ordained curate and an incumbent of long service.

He was one of several speakers wanting to ensure a general debate in the church on clergy pay differentials, in the face of a report from a working party published by the Church Commissioners which argued in favour of the status quo, with some minor adjustments.

St. Ronald Harris, First Church Estates Commissioner, had urged the Synod to commend the report, and promised that this, and any comments on it, would be borne in mind in deciding future pay policy.

Critics of the report's conclusions, although apparently not in a majority, persuaded the Synod to seek the views of diocesan synods before making a final decision. Canon E. B. Marlow, of Birmingham, said that otherwise the Synod would not be giving clear guidance to the Church Commissioners on whether it was differentials were acceptable in principle.

Canon Peter Coleman, of Bristol, said the real difficulty of clergy's pay came at the bottom of the scale, where a curate with a salary was almost certainly eligible for Family Income Supplement. He

received loud applause for asking whether it was satisfactory that the church should let the Government be the compensation agency in this matter. The Rev L. G. Moss, of Hereford, said he could see no justification for the present range in incumbents' pay from £2,400 to £3,500 so many of them were doing the same kind of work.

Mr J. M. Cobham, of Oxford, said the real difficulty among incumbents was between the clergyman whose wife was a full-time unpaid unofficial curate and one whose wife had a job of her own.

## WEST EUROPE

## New York's continued ban on Concorde seen as 'major affair' in Franco-US relations

Paris, July 8.—The continued refusal of the Port of New York Authority to allow Concorde to make test flights to Kennedy airport is a major affair for Franco-American relations.

M. Louis de Guiringaud, the Foreign Minister, told Mr Arthur Hartman, the American Ambassador, today.

A French spokesman said that Mr Hartman was paying his first official visit to the Minister when M. de Guiringaud emphasized the view of the Government over the Concorde affair.

Earlier, M. Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the Minister of Public Works, had deplored the decision.

"Our fellow citizens cannot understand the American position, which risks changing relations between our two countries," he said in a statement.

M. Fourcade, a former Finance Minister and close aide of President Giscard d'Estaing, said that the French Government was "extremely determined to employ all the steps open to it to fight against this discrimination towards one of the most successful products of European technology."

The decision "penalizes Air France and British Airways" because they could not use Concorde on the most favourable route where "it presents the maximum of advantages compared to its competitors," he said.

M. Lucien Neuwirth, president of the National Assembly's Concorde defence committee, said that the decision was an anachronism in which the absurdity of competing with the mediocrity of New York, now a backward, bankrupt city, is unable to understand today's world.

The French and British Governments should "re-examine the landing rights of aircraft coming from New York," he said.

M. Marcel Cavallé, the Minister of Transport, said today that the ban on Concorde was discriminatory and intolerable. He added: "The battle continues."—AP, Reuter.

Political move: Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch and Lymington, and chairman of the Anglo-French Concorde Group, said he was seeking a meeting with the Foreign Office to discuss the need for Britain to change its tactics in the battle for Concorde's landing rights in New York.

"It is clear that Concorde is facing purely political enemies in New York. It is abundantly clear that the American Government holds the responsibility for the present situation," he said.

"The British Government is still playing along with the American Government in the attitude that this is a matter for the courts. The Port of New York Authority is a politically-controlled body which is making all the running and its decisions and pronouncements are purely political."

Moscow: Tass took the side of Britain and France in the controversy over Concorde. The news agency said that "by preventing the landing of the aircraft in the lucrative New York airport, influential American circles, and air and aircraft building firms backing them, strive to weaken the competition of British Airways and Air France and to undermine the manufacture of supersonic aircraft in West Europe."—AP.

## Nazi death camp guard sentenced

Frankfurt, July 8.—A former Nazi extermination camp guard who once bragged he could kill a man with 12 whiplashes today received a 15-year prison sentence after a retrial, West Germany's longest trials.

Hubert Gomerski, aged 65, will remain at liberty because he served 22 years of a previous life sentence for the same crime before being freed in 1972 for a retrial, Judge Volker Schneider ruled.

The judge said that Herr Gomerski "acted with particularly noteworthy brutality" in helping to torture, gas and shoot several Jews, mostly Polish, Jewish, or Sobibor extermination camp in Nazi-occupied Poland in 1942-43.

When transports arrived with new victims rounded up by the Nazi genocide machine, Herr Gomerski distinguished himself by his brutality. Witnesses said "he was among members of the camp staff who were especially feared because of their rough manner and cruelty."

One witness testified that the former SS sergeant boasted that he could kill a person with 12 lashes of his whip.

Herr Gomerski was originally sentenced to life imprisonment for the same crimes in 1950. He was freed in 1972, when his request for a retrial was granted because the Appeal Court ruled he was convicted on the basis of partially false, incomplete testimony.

The retrial dragged on through 210 court sessions.—AP.

## Italian vendetta claims its 26th victim

From Our Correspondent

Rome, July 8.—A feud between two families in Cimino, a little village in southern Calabria, is believed to have claimed its twenty-sixth victim today, 860 miles away in Turin.

Signor Giuseppe Zucco, aged 40, who had emigrated from Cimino to work as a bricklayer in Turin, was drinking coffee in a Turin bar with his son Antonio, aged 16, this morning when two men fired at them through the window with a rifle and a submachine gun.

Gravely wounded, Signor Zucco tried to drag himself out of the bar but was killed with a pistol shot at close range. Antonio was injured but survived. The two killers made off in a wailing car.

The dead youth was José Joaquín Espares, aged 17, an amateur footballer from Pamplona. Running ahead of the bulls along the 300-yard course,

## Britain takes no chances with Unesco sports group

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, July 8.

Mr Denis Howell, the Minister for Sport, paid a flying visit to Paris today to try to forestall what the British Government sees as the danger of too much political involvement in a new Unesco sports organization.

The grouping is to be the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport, proposed innocently enough during the Unesco conference in Nairobi last December. Its aims are to fund and organize physical training in schools, looking into the problem of misuse of drugs and generally improving facilities round the world.

On the surface, it all seems harmless enough but after the near fiasco of the Montreal Olympics, Britain is worried that this body could find itself subject to political pressures that have nothing to do with physical education and sport.

So Mr Howell came to the interim committee meeting to propose a resolution, one clause of which he insisted should go into the official minutes. This called for an ad hoc working group to meet before the next session of the interim committee "bearing in mind the complexities of the highly organized world of competitive sport and the different constitutions of Unesco states; and having regard for the privately organized nature of the world sports organization."

The British intention, he said, was to guarantee sports for sportsmen and to find out whether countries would be represented on international bodies by sportsmen.

Whatever the troubles of the President, the continuing probability of the left in charge of their common programme are giving hope to the majority that they may be able to hold on in the elections.

These hopes have been given a fillip by the latest round of talks between the Socialists and Communists on the subject of nationalization.

The Communists want to include all large internally-owned subsidiaries of firms in their programme of nationalization—about 1,450 French firms. The Socialists, for their part, do not feel that subsidiary companies should be nationalized.

Unusually, the text of what he had to say was not released in advance, and he prepared it himself, seeking guidance on a few details from immediate colleagues.

He chose Carpentras, in the heart of Provence, largely because it is on the way to Brest, where he has a holiday home. But it is seen as significant that he has chosen to go out for the first time and set out his political plans to the people rather than make his speech to a television camera.

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## Opinion poll boost for Parliament in France

From Ian Murray

Paris, July 8.

The findings of a Sofres opinion poll must have given some encouragement to President Giscard d'Estaing as he prepared to address an audience in the provincial town of Carpentras tonight.

The poll, for the weekly *Valeurs actuelles*, showed that 52 per cent of people questioned thought that Parliament should have the right to legislate on the main trends of politics, while only 31 per cent felt that this was the job of the president.

Another question showed that 40 per cent felt that the President should be the head of the Government, and 33 per cent felt that he should have control over certain areas.

However, 26 per cent felt he should have merely a representative role. With eight months to go to the elections for the legislature, Mr Giscard d'Estaing's speech in the traditional manner of a president of the Fifth Republic, gained especial importance.

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Bulls run into the pile-up at the entrance to the bull ring yesterday.

Youth killed in Pamplona bull running

Pamplona, July 8.—A youth was crushed to death and another 35 young men needed medical treatment after Pamplona's annual running of the bulls today. It happened when scores of men trampled each other in an effort to escape the charging animals at the entrance to the bull ring.

The dead youth was José Joaquín Espares, aged 17, an amateur footballer from Pamplona. Running ahead of the bulls along the 300-yard course,

from the corral to the bull ring, he tripped and fell at the narrow entrance to the ring. One after another, dozens of runners fell on top of him.

The six bulls, all later fought by professional matadors, charged into the runners and trod on them for as long as five minutes. Ambulances were rushed to the spot and scores of screaming men, smeared with blood, were still lying on the ground when the bulls finally reached the arena.

The



## OVERSEAS

## Harsh Albanian attack signals the end of special link with China

From Dossa Trevisan  
Belgrade, July 8

The alliance between China and Albania, called to life 16 years ago by Soviet imperialism, the common enemy of both countries, seems to have broken up.

Albania has now launched an ideological attack on China's theory of the "Third World", accusing it of betraying true Marxism-Leninism and of propagating ideas which are having "catastrophic consequences" for the revolutionary cause of the proletariat throughout the world.

The attack, carried by the Albanian newspaper *Zeri i Popullit* yesterday, did not mention China by name, but the long distributive was clearly directed at China and reflected Albania's growing dissatisfaction with the way things were going in China since the purging of the radicals.

Even before, a certain coolness was noticeable as Peking began to mend its fences with the United States and, from the Albanian point of view, worse still with President Tito. Yugoslav revisionism is anathema in Tirana, though relations on the state level have improved in recent years. The Albanian leadership maintains, however, that there can be no compromise over ideological issues.

Recently, Peking has appeared to have added insult to injury by inviting President Tito on a state visit which shows clearly the reasons for the timing of the Albanian attack on Peking.

Although trouble between Peking and Tirana has been simmering for some time, the *Zeri i Popullit* attack goes way beyond previous hints of criticism.

The Albanian party organ dis-paraged Peking's theory that one super power was less dangerous than the other or that the Third World represented a shield against both. Such a theory, the Albanians asserted, not only ignored the contradictions between the two rival social systems—capitalism and socialism—but was extrinsically opportunist, anti-Marxist and dangerous as it called upon the

oppressed millions to abandon the revolution.

There was a clear attack on China's practice of lumping together under the heading of anti-imperialist allies Arab oil sheikhs, General Pinochet of Chile and President Mobutu of Zaire.

The theory propounded by Peking that the Third World represented the world revolution's defence against imperialism, was now challenged by the Albanians because it created an illusion that "a cloak was found under which nations could shelter against the threat of superpowers".

There was another rebuke for China implicit in the article's rejection of the principle that "the enemy of my enemy is my friend".

The United States and the Soviet Union were equally dangerous to all people in striving to extend their domination, the newspaper said. Even if a country was directly threatened by one of the superpowers, this did not mean that the other superpower would become a friend, or that it should be treated as one.

The Albanians therefore warned Peking of the "catastrophic consequences" which such an alliance with one superpower directed against the other would have on the revolution.

The drift of the Albanian attack shows that the special relationship which existed for 16 years between Peking and Tirana has come to an end and that the Albanians are deeply disappointed in China's failure to hold up the revolutionary banner.

At the same time, it also reveals that there may have been very strong domestic reasons for such an attack. Last year, Mr Enver Hoxha, the party leader, organized a thorough purge and it may be that his policy has once again been challenged.

Although the article is equally hostile to the Soviet Union and the United States, it is believed that Mr Hoxha is under pressure from some sections of the regime who feel encouraged by China's rapprochement with the United States and who like to see an Albanian opening to the West.

## Mr Fukuda hopes for independents' help

From Peter Hazelhurst  
Tokyo, July 8

Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party will try to absorb successful independent candidates into its ranks rather than enter a coalition alliance with the Opposition if it loses its majority during elections to the Upper House of Sunday.

Faced with the prospect of a setback at the polls on Sunday, senior party leaders said today that Mr Fukuda, the Prime Minister, is confident of retaining effective power in Parliament if a small number of sympathetic independents join, or lend their support to, the Government in the Upper House.

"A working arrangement with the formal opposition parties in Parliament would force the Liberal Democrats to compromise on basic policy and we will attempt to avoid it at all costs," a spokesman said. "We are confident of winning a majority but, if it is not, we do not hope that Independents will join the party."

As more than 78 million Japanese voters prepare to go to the polls on Sunday to elect half of the 252 representatives to the Upper House, the latest opinion polls indicate

that the ruling party has gained some ground this week, but it is unlikely to retain its present strength of 127 seats, a bare majority.

According to the latest projections of Asahi Shimbun, which is noted for accurate surveys, the ruling party is expected to lose three to seven crucial seats to the slightly less conservative forces in the Opposition.

In contrast to the charged atmosphere of seven months ago when an election to the Lower House of the Diet was dominated by the Lockheed scandal, no burning issue has been raised.

Illustrating that the Lockheed controversy has passed into political history in Japan, the Liberal Democrats will carry 22 of their 76 nominations to candidates drawn from a faction under the control of Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the former Prime Minister, who is standing trial on charges of accepting bribes from American aircraft corporation.

Commenting on the fact that the incumbent prime minister's faction received only 21 nominations, the Japanese press suggested today that Mr Tanaka, disgraced as he is, remains a hidden force.

## Asian group to seek links with communists

Singapore, July 8

The foreign ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) committed their five countries today to promoting peaceful relations with Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

In a communiqué, the ministers also said the non-communist nations of the region were confident that talks to be held with Japan, Australia and New Zealand next month would bring closer links.

The communiqué said: "The ministers reviewed the situation in South-East Asia and reiterated the desire of ASEAN countries to promote peaceful beneficial relations with all countries, including Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, on the basis of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty."

The statement coincided with an announcement from Manila that a Vietnamese trade and goodwill mission would visit the Philippines.—UPI

## Ghanaians strike in favour of civilian rule

Accra, July 8

Professional workers went on strike today in an attempt to compel the Supreme Military Council to speed up its timetable for a return to civilian rule.

In Accra, medical services were practically halted as doctors and dentists joined the strike, together with lawyers, accountants, engineers and others. Similar strikes were called in other big cities.

General Acheampong, the head of state, announced on June 30 that a committee would invite views on how the country might be governed. The timetable was for the committee to report in three months with a referendum six months after that on the form of government.

After the referendum a constituent assembly would be set up to write a constitution before power was handed to civilians.—AP

## Envoys find Soviet President in fine health

Moscow, July 8

President Brezhnev, showed at a meeting with the diplomatic corps today that recent reports of his deteriorating health are "total nonsense", western diplomatic sources said.

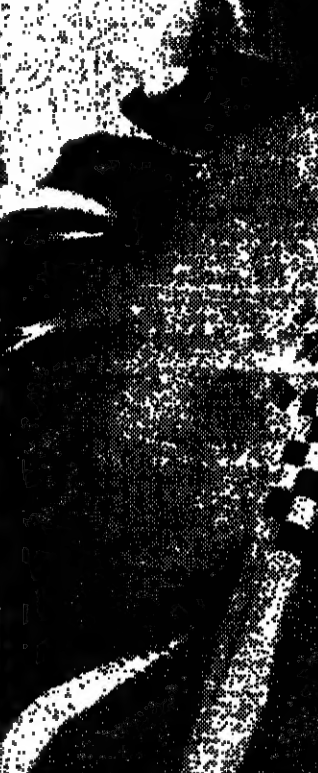
They said that the President received all of the ambassadors stationed in Moscow at the Kremlin in an hour and 15 minutes and was on his feet during the entire time.

Mr Brezhnev, aged 70, shook hands with each ambassador, stopped to chat with most of the envoys, listened to a speech by Mr Robert Ford, the Canadian Ambassador, and the dean of the diplomatic corps in Moscow, and responded with a statement of his own.

"He was sufficiently alert mentally to speak individually to a hundred or so envoys and charged," one Western diplomat, who was at the meeting, recalled. "Mr Brezhnev is in pretty good shape now."

After Mr Brezhnev's journey to Paris last month, French officials were reported to have concluded that he was nearing the end of his rule because of ill health.

Some Moscow analysts believe that Mr Brezhnev suffers sudden fluctuations in his health resulting from a serious, but not debilitating, disease. Others speculate that he is able to "bounce back" from an attack through the use of powerful drugs.—UPI



Versatile prince: The Prince of Wales was initiated into the Kaimosi (Blood Indian) tribe at Sun Dance Camp in Alberta, and became an honorary chief with the name of Red Crow. Later, wearing a white cowboy hat, he rode on a black mare with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at the head of a mile-long parade in the annual Calgary Stampede.

## Pakistan military takeover surprising only in its timing

From Hasan Akhtar  
Islamabad, July 8

The intervention by the armed forces in Pakistan's political crisis, although sudden, was not entirely unexpected. Indeed, as time passed without the crisis coming to an end, many Pakistanis who have developed a habit of looking to the armed forces to pull them out of natural or man-made calamities, began to wonder why the army had not done anything about it.

The military takeover came after four months of vacillation and unrest, which began when the Opposition alleged that votes had been rigged in the general election on March 7. Mr Bhutto's People's Party had emerged victorious with a larger margin than in the last election seven years ago.

Despite the fact that six years of Mr Bhutto's autocratic rule had eroded much of his own and his party's popularity, at least in the cities.

After this amazing electoral triumph, which surpassed even Mr Bhutto's expectations, thanks to the large number of ballot manipulations by his governing party members and subversive district and provincial officials, he brushed aside Opposition protests and declared that there was no question of a fresh election.

The nine-party Pakistan National Alliance, however, forced the ballot rigging and was ready to hit back with anti-government demon-

strations on a wide scale. The protests peaked in Islamabad and Karachi as Mr Bhutto defied the demand for a new election, and by April 9, when police and federal security forces killed an estimated 25 of the thousands of indignant men and women protesting near the assembly building in Lahore, it became apparent that Mr Bhutto had overreached himself. That incident in Lahore, with its subsequent repercussions in other parts of Punjab, proved the turning point in Mr Bhutto's political decline.

After three months of vacillation, and under pressure from the military high command to seek a political settlement instead of keeping the armed forces locked in endless confrontation with the people, Mr Bhutto agreed to begin negotiations with the Opposition. On June 3 the principal Opposition leaders, freed from detention, were invited to the government table and during the next 30 days of erratic discussion, the two sides appeared very close to a settlement.

But then, it appears, both sides came to the conclusion that they had conceded too much to each other. The Opposition feared the draft agreement would give the Government an opportunity to repeat its March victory and the Government thought the Opposition had overestimated its strength. On July 3 both sides said they were having second thoughts. Meanwhile there was renewed street fighting in Lahore, with

government supporters allegedly armed by the authorities. The situation, as it has emerged after the takeover by General Zia-ul-Haq, the army chief of staff, and the imposition of martial law, which some suspected came about as a result of collusion with the former prime minister, who controversially gave the impression that the armed forces were his back and call, comes very close to what the Opposition demanded: that in order to ensure the freedom and fairness of a new election, it should be conducted jointly by the army and judiciary.

The present circumstances are a basis for Mr Bhutto. Deprived of control over the organs of state and government which have traditionally helped government parties to score easy electoral victories in countries like Pakistan, the People's Party has a very remote chance of winning the election planned for October. Mr Bhutto may well refuse to take part in the poll, on the pretext that he would not recognize an election conducted outside the Constitution.

The Opposition parties, however, are certain to take part. At present they propose to fight the election on a united front, but it is not inconceivable that they will split. Mr Bhutto's non-participation, therefore, the components of the Pakistan National Alliance may part company.

## Lorry sales to Uganda disturb MP

By Malcolm Brown

Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, is to be asked to intervene to stop a consignment of lorries and Land-Rovers being sent to Uganda.

The existence of the order, now awaiting shipment, was disclosed in the House of Commons yesterday by Mrs Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development. A total of 38 lorries and two Land-Rovers is involved.

The consignment was ordered in 1974, through the Crown Agents, who act as business and financial agents for many overseas governments and authorities and is destined for the Ugandan armed forces or the police.

Mr Greville Janner, Labour MP for Leicester West, said last night that Britain should refuse to send the vehicles and take the risk of being sued for breach of contract.

It was disgraceful that such a transaction should be taking place when such vehicles were being used in the killing of Ugandans, he said. Mr Janner said that he would approach the Foreign Secretary after failing to get any further information from the Ministry.

Asked by *The Times* about the consignment, the Crown Agents said the matter was confidential.

## Australian party condemns E Timor invasion

Perth, July 8

The Opposition Australian Labour Party wound up its biennial national conference today with a tough resolution condemning Indonesia's invasion of East Timor.

The conference was formulating policies for the next general elections.

The resolution commits the next Labour government to suspending military aid to Indonesia.

Mr Gough Whitlam, the Opposition leader and former Prime Minister, was the only delegate to oppose the resolution.

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## 'Currency plot' in Mozambique air ticket sales

Dar es Salaam, July 8

The Government of Mozambique today invalidated all international tickets of the Mozambican national airline, Denta, saying it had uncovered a "currency plot" aimed at draining the country's foreign exchange.

A special Mozambican Cabinet meeting announced the discovery of a "vast action" organized from foreign countries aimed at provoking the flight of foreign exchange.

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## Conversion of Mr Sithole may help settlement

From Our Correspondent  
Salisbury, July 8

The Rev Ndabangisi Sithole is returning to Salisbury on Sunday to involve himself again in Rhodesia settlement attempts; and he is believing here that he may be allowed to help organize African opinion in favour of peaceful means, as hinted by Mr Smith, the Prime Minister, in his television broadcast earlier this week.

The maneuvering by the Government to "abandon" Mr Sithole conveniently from his militant and violent past has shaken whites and it is known that members of the Cabinet are opposed to this.

Mr Sithole is accepted as a brilliant politician and intellectual. Born 57 years ago at Nyamandlovu, north of Bulawayo, he was a missionary student of Mr Garfield Todd, the first Southern Rhodesian Prime Minister. He grew up a fervent advocate of African nationalism, wrote impressively about African political aspirations while in jail or detention, and founded the Zimbabwe African National Union in August, 1963, as a rival to the Zimbabwe African People's Union of Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Technically, Mr Sithole is due to be re-detained, having failed to return after being allowed to attend an OAU foreign ministers' conference in Dar es Salaam in April, 1975. But since he has renounced terrorism, it is believed here that he may be allowed to help organize African opinion in favour of peaceful means, as hinted by Mr Smith, the Prime Minister, in his television broadcast earlier this week.

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## Pilot blamed for death of 54 servicemen

From Our Correspondent  
Tel Aviv, July 8

A military inquiry into the death of 54 servicemen in a helicopter crash exposed operational and technical defects in the Israeli Air Force.

Judge Dov Levin, who was called up for reserve duty to conduct the investigation, said today that Captain Moshe Winer, the pilot, was responsible because he flew at a dangerous low altitude in darkness.

But the judge recommended that the Army consider charges against Captain Winer's commanding officer, a major, whose entire unit has flown lower than the helicopter altitude permitted in standing orders.

The accident occurred on May 10 near Jericho, during a combined night exercise by paratroopers, helicopters and fighter aircraft with the participation of engineering, armoured and artillery units.

## SPORT

## Athletics



Capek (left) and Stahlberg, whose meeting in it should be evenly balanced and important.

## Withdrawals could be costly to Britain

From Cliff Temple,  
Athletics Correspondent  
Oulu, Finland, July 8

The withdrawal of Brendan Foster, Steven Oyatt and Tony Shannon from the Nordic team to meet Finland in the two-day athletics match beginning here tomorrow could be costly for the British team.

On the rubbering track, the Finns will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 400m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 800m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 1,500m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 2,000m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 2,500m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 3,000m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 3,500m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 4,000m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 4,500m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 5,000m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 5,500m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 6,000m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 6,500m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 7,000m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 7,500m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 8,000m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 8,500m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 9,000m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 9,500m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 10,000m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.

On the 10,500m race, the British will be looking upon their double champion, Jesse Owens, still not fully recovered from a serious winter injury, as a serious threat to their success in the 100m and 200m races in both days.





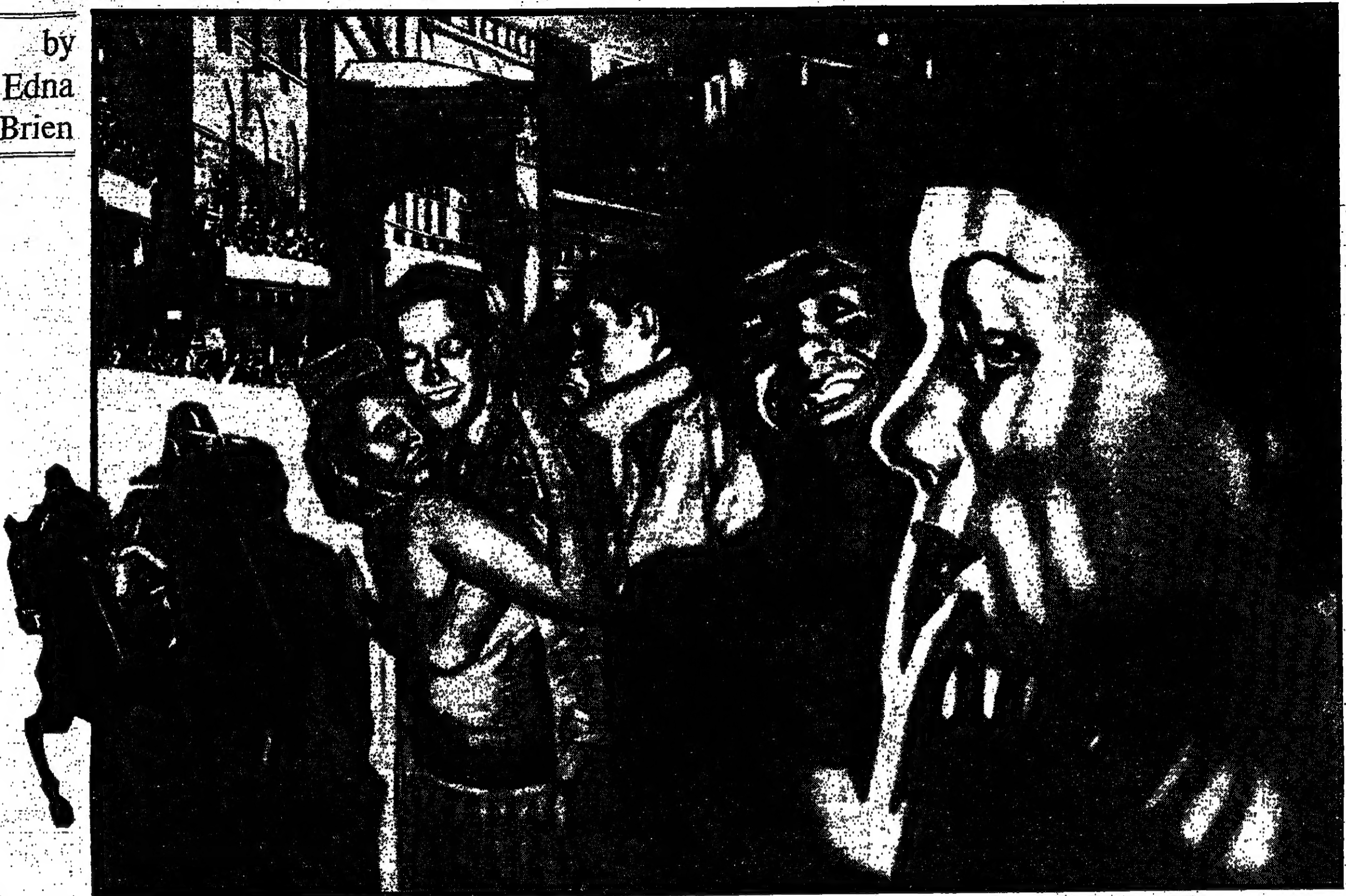






# A Siena souvenir

by  
Edna  
O'Brien



**Illustration by Michael Trevithick**

is extract is taken from  
"I Hardly Knew You."  
—Edna O'Brien, which is  
being published on  
day by Weidenfeld and  
Nicolson at £3.65.

I wonder if the nights of Tuscany will help me through. I saw so many pictures of martyrdom. St. John's of all countenances. Papes, innumerable. Christas standing, with the olive branch, the sword, the wine, the grapes, the mauling, to repeat. Always so decked and so profuse with flowers it was as if gardens bloomed beneath them. Frescoes too. Those that depicted scourging and those that depicted the death of the saints. Then a painting of a little girl whom death claimed because she had taken an apple from a stranger. They are so fresh in my mind, they are perhaps my burden. I am sometimes I have been able to imagine myself back there, particularly seeing those paintings on a yellow wall, on a summer's day, paintings in which the actual scene was so real that one day, one saw them, at other times they vanished.

In short they came and went like spirits, like shadows. Yet they were perfect as was the lone dining-room with its round, arched and the lovely scene of the garden being packed with pots of geraniums. Beyond the railings there was a drop to a valley of green impressive trees.

Soon after the tea and the book-making, I was invited to go to the Tuscany to restore some pictures. Bert and my son had gone to Edinburgh to start rehearsing a play. I was glad to leave and say that I had such apprehensions about my journey.

My friend, the missionnaire and a bit peculiar. He was a fellow-cow, and more interested in his hawk and in the tame birds he fattened for more than in his collection of paintings. My friend had taken a room next to his for the summer.

I recall my room in the villa, every aspect of it. It was sparsely furnished and that is a good thing because I can summon it up in a minute and there is no clutter. There was the big bench next to the wall, where I put my clock and my medicines, and where there was already a container for my spectacles and my Midge. Midge, it raised all the time at first, so that even they went into hiding.

There was an old round hall stand and on to each of the wooden prongs I hung some of my clothing, so that anyone entering the room would immediately assume that it was a stage prop so decorated with scarves, ties, coats and multi-colored dresses. No one did that in the home except the

passed each morning with a flask of coffee, warm bread, and three flavours of jam. I would open the shutters because I have been assigned when I awaken and also it was sweeter to be in the dark, and sip the coffee and have the crust of the warm bread, and the variety of jams and honey. Invariably she forgot a knife.

Then at last when my eyes were ready for it I got up and undid the shutters and the little bird flew from and the little oiled bird beck and forth like a dream as if it were waiting for that, as if that were its only desire, and then I had some times for amusement, its own and mine, and then suddenly throw the shutters outwardly and there the world would be shining, and the bird was shivering, and hushed.

The olive leaves would be silverish, and the other various hues of green or yellow and as far as the eyes could see, the olive groves and the dark cypresses, the blur of black, beside the yellow stone houses with red shingled roofs. Even the telegraph poles seemed rusted and blackened. The trees were small wooden poles and compared with the big pylons they seemed to have no track with the race of time.

One morning a hen appeared to have laid an egg, at least she exulted in it, and it was found, the bird stood in the field not far distant from an enjono, a beast to "go on top" or "go on", and all the topsides of all the olive trees swayed faintly silver, in the

lovely sporadic breeze.

"I was content there, content then. I could think of him or I could refuse to think of him. I was mistress of my thoughts and much more to the point mistress of my heart. The only wonder was when would the millionaire send for me and what kind of impression would I make on him. Two days had gone by and there was no summons from him. He had paid my fare and added a small amount for expenses. Madeline handed me the envelope with the new notes. I loved them, loved their pink and russet colour and their soft, showing a glimpse of scraps that led to quaint and then the very elegant, very resigned smile of Michelangelo. Yes I was glad I had come.

I would stand at the one window for quite a long time, and just stare at the forest that sloped down to a plantation of young vines, and then raise my eyes a fraction to

I think now when I revisit that room that was my death-chamber, how they were quite far away, on the horizon so to speak, while near me surrounding me were the little sturdy life-giving olives, the figs, the nut trees, the chestnuts, the green like nurselings and it was not death I thought of or dwelt on, but of *Bare*, and myself slipping into *Bare*, perhaps the day and night of *Bare* would have been very long. Life all the pleasure and all the satisfaction that might be ours. I would have liked him there and yet did not want him, and yet did not send him. I did not send a card.

I flirted mildly with one of the other young boys and used to ask him to take walks with me, so that we could identify the wild flowers. He called me "Hart," as he was as bawdy as Hart, more acolyte than saint. One evening I had to take him to the hospital because his foot had swelled up after a wasp sting.

While they drew the poison off he walked in the corridor and there were scatterings of patients and visitors. At the end of the long room was a huge barred window, and I walked down there and saw before me in true, magical storybook prettiness the street lights of Smeat, the mountains beyond, and just above their peaks a heavy glow of scarlet in the hazy blue vault of the heavens. Seen through bars, just like now. Here I get a mere fraction of sky and it could be grey woollen cloth, so opaque and unchanging is it. Yet as I stood there I did not mind the bars, in some ways they added interest. But I was not a patient.

I thought that hair tied my  
 sor were probably building a  
 stage at that very moment, giv-  
 ing orders, hammering, lugh-  
 ing, getting cables laid, work-  
 ing, clapping and I wondered  
 why I did not miss them again.  
 The young boy hobbled  
 towards me sporting a very big  
 important bandage. I helped  
 him out.

"Thus in the twilight that was  
 quickly passing we saw the  
 facades change from beige and  
 pink to a warm shimmering  
 red that seemed to caress  
 the eyes and the heart.  
 The square was decorated  
 for a few cars and the houses  
 like white palaces guarded the  
 vast cathedral in the centre. It

was one of those beguiling moments which causes one to say "I could live here," or "I will and my days here"; moments when it seems that the cares that bind us will soon pass, our shackles will turn into streamers, moments when even to ourselves we appear to walk on air, proud pirouettes impelled by the most propitious of gods.

We claimed the flight of steps that was dizzying in order to make the entrance lead up to high candles, separate to light candles for our separate intercessions. But the iron-studded door was closed, and though we made some foolish noise, no one came. There were much more exasperated by the thought of a grappa than the possibility of seeing God's house.

I personally did not care one way or the other. Sightseeing did not interest me. I had only one real desire, to get back to my room. The moment we got home I rushed up to see what was going on. I was surprised that there was so little that had changed. There was the big black wrought-iron double bed, with a mosaic in the head and foot boards. There was the chair with sharp, curved, the wooden bench and a lampshade that was extremely incongruous with the rest of the furniture.

All in all it was a blissful combination. The lampshades and my variety of clothes that hung on the hall stand were what might be called female elements in the room, while the other furniture was masculine. I was firmly imprinted with the idea of male taste: A man's room you might say, with a bit of fuss.

I had the conviction that I could stay there indefinitely, that those trees, and the way they swayed or stood, and the unbroken, that the dog and those various other dogs whom I could hear but not see, the hens, and the cypresses were my guardians, that by hiding there I could forget my duties, forget insult, forget fear, even forget Jude, forget the hollowest of life.

But I was not there though I

loved the country and had daydreams about clay, about orchards, about things being planted; I lived in a city and saw things, such as raspberries or lettuce in shops far removed from their source, as I believed I was.

I did not have to forget or banish Hart because in a sense I had not begun to cleave to the memory of him. As we had had together was a dinner,

a ramble up a street, and a surprise tea-time visit when he managed to convince me that he had left his sunglasses behind. We even knelt and groped for them although we both knew that it was one of those sweet ruses that bad liars, or intending lovers, resort to.

So in the mountain room with the rain outside, or if not rain, drizzle, I would open the windows and see the leaves blowing as it were in my direction, then lean out, smell the rain, hear the overflow in the gutter, hear the pit-pat on the leaves and occasionally the wind that was louder and more forceful. I thought, "Stay here." What that voice in me, warning, forwarding. But we have so many voices in us, how do we know which ones to obey.

again to see if there was any signal from the millionaire. No letter, had come. Madeline said he might put a flag out. He was the kind of man who did nothing in the expected manner, and for whom things had to be done in a special way. It seems he came to her villa one night in a carriage-and-pair, brought his own cook and a brace of pheasants. . . .

She even speculated on a little flirtation starting up between him and me but I doubted it. She said once I got in there I would be encompassed by the grandeur of it all. She said there was champagne in every room and so, matter what the season white musk-smelling

lives. We could see his house behind the trees, it shone no advantage at night, was like a huge white ship, with lights twinkling on and off; at moments a sudden darkness, and then a fresh reinforcement of lights as if the life inside it was passing through the most drastic, the most inconsistent of changes. She touched her forehead and said, "He would send for me, but said that I must not wait on him," and that in fact I were untrue, he would be all the more impressed.

known as the Palo. The town was in a fever of excitement. Although we had arrived early, every available seat was taken and still crowds surged to get through. The town hall and the villas all around were festooned with flowers, flags hung from the various windows. Residents and their friends would lean out just to take stock of what was happening and presently withdraw.

ings in most of the rooms, gatherings that had become a tradition from year to year. Very young boys in golden tunics with red epaulettes, and embroidered breast frons, marched about in a strict, soldierly, somewhat pompous manner. Some played small drums, others held the bright reins of the horses. The horses too were weighed down with bells, rosettes and other ornamentation. These horses were part of the pageantry, but the combatants, the ones who would race, were still in the town and back to the town hall, and sometimes in a full one could hear them whinnying.

Eager for a good view we would try to edge our way into one place and then another. As often we were not allowed to join the mob, we were left to sulk at those parties of people who merely had to lean out of their windows or loil on their balconies. The rousing music, the spontaneous outbursts from the crowd, the razzle-dazzle and the cockiness of the boys added to the excitement. Rumour was rife at how dangerous the race could be, and death was ruled out. There were told how the older boys had spilled their guts in the past, and as if that were not enough, how the losing jockeys would gang together to kill the winning boys, with clubs. One of the boys who had learned Italian from his father, said anything he seemed to understand. He was pale from the onslaught of stories told to him.

The more people who arrived the more frantic the throng became; the late arrivals would try climbing on other people's shoulders, or erecting their folding step-ladders. There was wildness about. Shortly before it began the crowd lost patience and made it clear that they were no longer satisfied with music or spectacle, that they wanted the race. They began to stamp and yell. All heads were craned towards the big entrance door through which the horses came and then just as it was drawn back and the bugles sounded several of the women began to weep.

At once as the horses came through the roaring from the crowd became massive, and most people stood up so and then as the horses came out to us who were at the front the evening was a gauge which we could only gauge from the shouting, the exclaiming, the booing and the wild consciousness from rival groups. All we could see was one corner

and while still craning to see  
we found our footing gone as a  
riderless horse broke loose and  
the crowd ran like wildfire,  
crushing each other in the pro-  
cess. It was as if a wall of  
swaying clammouring bodies all  
fell on one and I thought the  
day of general judgment had  
arrived, as we sloped towards  
the ground with bodies above  
bodies around, and bodies  
beneath us.

yet almost as suddenly as we had been pitched, soon we were swung upright again like a wall that some master builder had miraculously restored. People were crying and screaming, some had fainted, several crossed themselves and thanked their maker. The horse was by now loose out on the street or else someone had

On the far side of the square the very same incident happened. I saw a man being pulled from the peaceful cry of the mob. When we stood up we saw people running in all directions, some to avoid catastrophe, others to seek it out. We ran ourselves not knowing what we wanted.

It was at least an hour before things quietened and not one of us knew who had been the winner or what had happened to the winning jockey. The sand in the square still seemed to shimmer from the impact of the hooves, and still the crowd of people milled and dithered with papers, ice-cream, carnations and empty bottles. A vestibleness had got into our bones. We bought and drank bottles of soft. One of the young boys bought green bubble balloons. Suddenly I found myself dashing to a souvenir shop to buy Hart a wooden flute. My party caught as I took it and caught unimpaired towards the stage.

"Who is it for?"  
"A boy," I said.

Suddenly it was as if I had put my sights on him and as if I had found something had been set in motion. I must have known that I was going to see him, that I was going to couple with him and yet I would have postponed it for ever. There was a dance in the town square and we all trooped off. We danced with strangers, we drank anything that was offered to us. Somehow the flame got broken, but I did not care. The strangers danced more robustly than I, but soon it was coming up to their level and responding to their reckless embraces.

© Edna O'Brien.



## Previews by Kenneth Eastaugh

## Radio

## Angiotensin

5.00 am; 31st  
-Mandred- 9.4

7 Inc. Apr. 19  
dent. with  
Phoenix S.

The Muppets.  
The Fasters.  
3.00. ATV.

...The program  
...stability. So

non-performance  
awareness of his

...The program  
...stability. So

non-performance  
awareness of his

6.55 am. New Day, News, Doug

● Tuesday. These Twenty-Five Years (BBC1 10.45 pm).

...the interview, and programmes by Jack Hargreaves, Arthur Aspinall and others. When the programme was first broadcast, the BBC said: "Why not, indeed?" And this is it. Each week Mr Day will talk with two personalities who hold different views about the same subject, beginning with Lord Longford and John Mortimer on "Has the permissive society proved to be more civilized?" Succeeding weeks include Tony Benn and Peter Jenkins on the Labour Party, Ted Heath and Lord Blake on the Conservative Party, Kenneth Williams and Sir David Nisbet on Crime, and Lord Hailsham and Professor Sir J. A. Ayer on Religion—have we become a less Christian nation and, if so, is that a good or a bad thing? We are also promised a more relaxed Robin Day. He tells me: "Basically these are conversations. I'm not cross-questioning. I just let the two guests confront each other." He pauses. "Of course you may not notice the difference in my approach. I don't suddenly become a different sort of chap, but there is a difference, I think. . . . That's all."

● **Thursday, The Frost Programme (BBC1 9.25 pm).** He still has appeal, but to see him, sometimes almost blind, in this present series of interviews, it is hard to recall that, in the past, Frost was a teenage actress who can rank as the most phenomenal of any performer in the short history of television. Ten years ago The Frost Programme (then on ITV) was must viewing three times a week. The programmes had an air of excitement and unpredictability. So what has gone out of Frost as a hypnotic television performer? He has never been a subtle thinker. The ordinariness of his views would often be banal if it were not for the passion with which he brags them. So what appeal can he have now in the passion. Is age the reason? Has the youthful caring about social inequality and injustice been watered down by time? A pity if it has, but I keep watching over hopeful.

● **Friday, Second week of an eight-week repeat of The Duchesses of Devon Street (BBC2 7.35 pm)** made up of the initial five episodes and three assorted later stories featuring Gemma Jones as Louisa Leyton in her rise from Cockney cook to owner of a distinguished London hotel and adviser and confidante to the rich and famous. These repeats are immediately followed by sixteen new episodes covering the years 1810 to 1925. Gemma tells me: "I admire Louisa rather than like her as a heroine. I don't want her to be a success, which is really my type. She's too rough and resilient and, I think, fragile. But I love playing her!"

● **Friday, Horizon—The Amazing Doctor Newton (BBC2 9.30 pm).** For some time the BBC has been considering doing a programme about Isaac Newton, the famous apple picker, but considered the scope of the man's achievements too vast and shielded off. Now Horizon, one of the most consistently workmanlike and fascinating series on television, has had a go. It probes the enigmas of Newton in a drama, starring Jack Shepherd. "I just think it was a brilliant idea," says John Mansfield who wrote and directed the programme, "tells me: "I've not tried to do the impossible by going for a definitive biography in sixty minutes. I've tried to give an impression of the man. Everybody knows about the apple, but how much more does the man in the street know about Newton? So much more than he is now recognized at the time, though as a gadabout he had honours heaped on him and was something of a vicious, nasty old so-and-so, suspicious and slanderous. As Master of the Mint he was personally responsible for getting rid of people hanged." Jack Shepherd outlines Derek Jacobi's aging years in the series, and his outbursts by going from 25 to 80 in the same programme.

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<b>Westward</b>	<b>Grampian</b>
10.00 News Service, 11.00 Cmcid, 12.00 News, 1.30 News, 7.15 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45 News, 9.15 News, 9.45 News, 10.15 News, 10.45 News, 11.15 News, 11.45 News, 12.15 News, 12.45 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 News, 2.15 News, 2.45 News, 3.15 News, 3.45 News, 4.15 News, 4.45 News, 5.15 News, 5.45 News, 6.15 News, 6.45 News, 7.15 News, 7.45 News, 8.15 News, 8.45	

-10.00 am, Service. 11  
Beachcombers 11.30 A

the Future. 12.00, Inside  
Politics. 1.00 pm, Canal  
London Weekend. 1.40,  
repeats. 2.10, Sport. 2.30,  
Ferry to Hongkong, with  
Jurgens, Orson Welles  
Sings. 4.45, Survival. 5.15  
Action. 5.45, Follow Me.  
6.15 News.  
6.25 Salina All're.  
6.50 Come Sunday.  
7.15 Des O'Connor.  
8.25 McClood.  
9.45 News from T.N.  
10.00 Sister Dora.  
10.00 London Programme  
12.00 Close: Teo Te Chi  
by Madhav Sharma.

**ATV**  
9.30 am, Farming Today  
Service. 11.00, Adda  
11.25, Dozo. 11.50, o  
Today. 12.00, London.  
Space 1999. 2.00, Spot  
Film: House of Secre  
Michael Gair, Julia Ar  
London. 7.15, Six Mill  
Man. 8.10, Film: For  
of Ada, with Irene Han  
Pickles. 9.45, London  
George. Hamilton IV.  
Kreskin.

**Southern**  
9.30 am, A House for the  
10.00, News. 11.00, Re  
the Future. 11.25,  
Weather. 11.30, Fan  
12.00, London. 1.00 pm,  
Voyage. 1.30, Garrick W  
Sports. 2.50, Film. Ed  
son, with Spencer Tra  
Kerr. 4.55, Highway Runn  
1.00, News. 11.00, W  
Film. The Russians are  
with Carl Reiner. Eva Ma  
4.40, News. 11.00, W  
Westminster. 11.30, Bon  
am, Weather. Christianity  
Community.

**Granada**  
9.40 am, The Beatles. 1  
10.00, News. 11.00, Un  
Cartoon. 11.30, Chap  
12.00, Inside Britain. Pol  
1.00, News. 1.10, T  
Islands. 1.40, Kreskin. 2  
1999. 3.00, Survival. 3  
The Brothers. 5.15, Lon  
4.40, News. 11.00, W  
Suiza. 9.45, London. 11.0  
Voyage. 11.45, The Adv

**Yorkshire**  
9.00 am, Healthy Eat  
11.00, News. 11.00, W  
11.25, Colin Neale. 11.30  
British Politics. 1.00 pm,  
1.00, News. 1.10, T  
Islands. 1.40, Kreskin. 2  
1999. 3.00, Survival. 3  
The Brothers. 5.15, Lon  
4.40, News. 11.00, W  
Suiza. 9.45, London. 11.0  
Voyage. 11.45, The Adv

**Border**  
9.30 am, A House for the  
11.25, Colin Neale. 11.30  
British Politics. 1.00 pm,  
1.00, News. 1.10, T  
Islands. 1.40, Kreskin. 2  
1999. 3.00, Survival. 3  
The Brothers. 5.15, Lon  
4.40, News. 11.00, W  
Suiza. 9.45, London. 11.0  
Voyage. 11.45, The Adv

11.30, The Prisoner.

7.40 am

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"SENSATIONAL . . . EXQUISITE . . ."

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2

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1. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.











## Radio

Theatre in London. It is vividly recalled, with (which starts with a long and ends with a long Arabia) is too bad for the acting was commendable, partly the Marsh's deliciously farcical, and the

the content was markedly, interestingly different from that offered by the established Church, whose doing we have been witnessing elsewhere in *Today in Synod*. This, one step in the attempt to revive radio religion, applies the techniques of the broadcasting of Parliament to the General Synod of the Church of England and it has really been a good deal more attractive than you might imagine. Gerald Priestland has taken recorded snippets of the debates and interviews and does it with some edge. I find it hard to credit that the proceedings in toto are quite as brisk as they here appear to be. This may well be radio improving on reality. . . .

But space runs out and there's a very great deal more to say. Back to it another time. Let me end by directing your attention to Radio 2 of a Wednesday and Charles Chilton's *Songs of Protest* and by remarking that in my view Charles Marowitz's 55-minute *Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Woody Allen* satisfied the Trade Descriptions Act within half an hour.

**David Wade**

## Collecting

(which ends with Arabia) is no bad but the acting is commendable, partly Marsh's deliciously femme-fatale, and nonpously



**J. A. MATHIAS**

# Lighty

setting off red and yellow tarantuli. A slightly less formidable bill was presented there, with one menu at 65fr. and one at 30fr.

But what is the purpose of this kind of cooking? Our team's money, they decided, could have been more enjoy-

ably spent on cuisine *parvenue* blow-outs round the Basque coast, followed perhaps by a spruce at the Casino.

After all, for the Berrits Café, de Paris's 3000, two people could stay a night in Mme Courveys's handsome villa up a steep, flower-lined path overlooking the town and superb fish *chamers*. One of them would be at Arrautaleak in Ciboure. There is no price fix, but 10fr brings eight plump sardines grilled over wood, 24fr a large sea-bream 10fr, an omelette with chunks of chorizo sausage, and 15fr a turtle of fairly rough

At Sunday lunch the atmosphere is festive though the eating is serious—as in good Chinese restaurants, you may order another dish when earlier ones have been eaten. There is no cover charge, but winkles and snails arrive as well as bread, and a gentle tomato sauce for the fish. A guitar and mandolin play Basque songs, and so do most of the diners. The

The second place, Soles in Hendaye, is described in *Gaule-Midi* as an "immense

## Gardening

David Wade

lavender blue, striped deeper blue outside; and "Ladykiller", purple edged with white outside, white inside.

There are also some bi-color types, are good for bowls and for planting out afterwards. Most people know only the ordinary "Blue" and "White" types. "Blue", but there is a white variety, and the unusual M. "Tubergenianum", often called the "Oxford and Cambridge Blue". The petals are of the same part of the spike is pale blue and the lower part dark blue.

The dwarf irises are good, too. The "reticulate" type is particularly interesting, and dark blue. The variety "J. S. Dill".

Of all the various daffodils it would suggest the N. cyclamen-like "Yellow", "Yellow Gold", "March Sunshine" and "Peeping Tom". February

garden side," over the years without ever imagining you would recommend something to waste reburial. I have fished for worms and have even plumbied in properly to the overflow floting and led it behind shrubs to a large honey-suckle bush that can never get enough water."

In fact, there is another item on the market called the Rain Miser which can be fitted to rain water pipes. It has an outlet to which you can attach a hosepipe and thus fill various containers. Other descriptions of various types of the garden, or of course to apply water where it is most needed. When not in use it is just a normal downspout. It also contains an overflow return.

It is available at garden

## Travel Cottage industry

ght, there  
meals in  
just down

come addition to the village, because it serves as a meeting point for the guests and does away with the sense of isolation which is a hazard of some self-catering holidays.

You need a self-drive car, because Koutsouri is two hours away from the airport at Herak-

lion and, as far as communications are concerned, in the midst of nowhere (attempting to telephone London merely to get local police to come to state of nervous hysteria). You also need to drive carefully, as I discovered on the trek along the pile of boulders jokingly referred to as the "Highway to Hell" to a mountain to Agios Ioannis. Mr. Hertz may not have approved of that particular trip, as one large boulder rearranged the underside of one of his cars. The trip is not for the authentic Crete. In Agios Ioannis, visitors are still sufficiently few and far between to be received with a sort of civic welcome—complete with complimentary beer and limoncello—by the Hertzally moushated

The mayor, it turned out, did not regret the loss of the cottages at Koutsoumari—but he did rather wonder what the visitors found to do there with no sheep to look after.

There are no problems about what to do in Corofin—one of the Irish "Renta-Cottage" developments which now proliferate in the west of Ireland and which, although one suspects they may have been built with American visitors in mind, seem to appeal principally to British and Continental visitors.

Again, you need a self-drive car—although for British visitors the B & I ferry link between Swansea and Cork makes it easy to take your own car to Ireland. There, although the roads are busier than a few years ago and heavy lorries have snapped off the ends of many of the road signs (you now have to puzzle out whether you want Dub . . . or Kilk . . . or Ball . . .) motoring is still a pleasure.

Corofin is a place which contrives to look and feel as though it is in the middle of

swimming, duck-rafting, and other water sports. The lake is the scene of many activities for which the Irish Republic is ideal: fishing, boating, riding and golf. The cottages themselves are well-equipped, clean and comfortable, and guests will find that they get a warm welcome from the villagers.

Living is still cheap (with a few shopkeepers still sticking doggedly to pounds, shillings and pence), and if you eat our helpings are huge.

But perhaps the greatest attraction is that in this part

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shed leaves over two weeks ago. Obviously it is trying to tell me something, probably that it is hungry, so, although it is rather late, I am applying a fertilizer now.

The coding moth that is responsible among other pests for mangy apples is on the wing, and if you can reach your apple trees a spraying with a good insecticide such as fenitrothion (Fenro) would be worth while, especially if you have only a light crop.

**Roy Hay**

**How to get there:** Tour operators whose programmes cover Koutsounari include Allsun, whose prices for a two-week holiday, with self-drive hire car, start at £193. For Corofia, or one of the other Irish holiday cottage developments, B and I Line have a package which includes the return sea trip, for car and passengers and one week's accommodation at prices which start at £31 per head.

**Robin Mead**

**CRUISES**  
London, E.C.1.

## Good Food Guide

(which ends with Arabia) is no bad but the acting is commendable, partly Marsh's deliciously femme-fatale, and nonpously

starring off red and yellow ranaucani. A slightly less formidable bill was presented there, where one menu at 65fr was eaten at 30fr.

But what is the purpose of this kind of cooking? Our team's money, they decided, could have been more enjoyably spent on *cuisine paysanne* blow-outs round the Basque coast, followed perhaps by a spritz at the Casino.

After all, for the Bikkaris Café, de Paris's 3000, two people could stay a night in Mme Courvèze's handsome

perk up to sleep, the sea and  
vortex overlooking the bay, and  
two superb fish dinners.  
One of them would be at  
Arautzaleak in Ciboure. There  
is no prize fix, but 10fr brings  
eight plump sardines grilled  
over wood, 24fr a large sea-  
bream 10fr, an omelette with  
chunks of chorizo sausage, and  
25fr a bottle of fairly rough  
cider. The place is crowded  
with locals and French visitors  
grazing vast platters of mussels,  
fried red mullet, skewers  
of beef on a plate of char-  
cuterie.

At Sunday lunch the atmosphere is festive though the eating is serious—as in good Chinese restaurants, you may order another dish when earlier ones have been eaten. There is no cover charge, but winkles and peas arrive as well as bread, and a gentle waltz to dance for the fish. A guitar and mandolin play slow Basque songs, and so do most of the diners. The owner who grills by the front door is a keen rugby supporter, eager to remind the English of Trevellick, 77.

The second place, says Hende, is described in Gault-Millau as an "immense

## THE WORLD CRUISE

**LAURO CRUISES**  
88 Rosebery Avenue, London, E.C.1.

**LAURO CRUISES**  
88 Rosebery Avenue, London, E.C.1.



George Hutchinson

# As predicted: a bad day for the Liberals, but it is Labour that has bitten the dust

However much Mr David Steel (or, come to that, Mr John P. D. Steel) may come to realize, the Liberals have sustained a severe and predictable rebuff in the Saffron Walden by-election. True, their humiliation is not complete; they remain in second place, as before. But their vote has suffered a critical collapse, falling from 14,770 to 10,255.

Such a loss of support can scarcely be called a proof of success for the Lib-Lab pact. It is hardly a vote of confidence in the Liberal Party. Without the support of many who previously voted Labour but turned to the Liberals rather than upholding the Tories it would have been much smaller.

It is Labour, of course, that has really bitten the dust at Saffron Walden. The party is discredited, and may well be finished for quite a time. It would be irrational to suppose that Mr Callaghan can hold on much longer. Mrs Thatcher's day as Prime Minister draws ever closer.

One can only hope that she and her party are fully prepared for the test—the test of office

and responsibility to which the electors are repeatedly calling them.

□ The revolt against the Government in one by-election after another can be ascribed to various causes. It does not spring entirely from the failure and consequent rejection of Labour policies, especially the failure to check inflation and to achieve some control over the cost of living, although this is no doubt the main source of Mr Callaghan's misfortune. Other influences are also at work.

One is a growing repugnance with the far left, which the social democrats have allowed, whether from inertia or complacency, to penetrate the Labour movement up and down the country and indeed to infiltrate the very centre, as we can see by looking at the composition of the party's National Executive Committee.

Another (and this is not to be underestimated) has been the indignation and continuing sense of outrage provoked by the Wilson resignation honours and subsequent disclosures. Nor can Lord Bradwell's squalid

reminders be said to have helped: as Tom Driberg he was, after all, an MP and a member of the NEC for many years.

In short, there is too much to live down: so much that it cannot be lived down. The Labour Party has become the prisoner and victim of its own extremists.

No one has expressed this more telling effect than Dr Stephen Haseler, himself a member of the party but in the Hugh Gaitskelli tradition—free, liberal, humane, rational, and at the same time vigorous, even aggressive, in defence of the principles that informed the early Labour leaders and still reflect the true heart of what is, in essence, a great movement for social betterment.

Read Dr Haseler's book, *The Death of British Democracy* (published last year by Paul Elek at £5.95). Read, as I have done, his recent Sir Robert Menzies lecture to the University of Western Australia, in which he had this to say:

"As far as I can sensibly testify to a single cause for Britain's decline, then I would lay

the responsibility firmly on the shoulders of the democratic left, the 'socialist generation' and the Fabians and their loss of integrity as a political tradition." Read, too, the latest bulletin from the Social Democratic Alliance, of which he and Mr Douglas Edén are the main-springs.

"We cannot blind ourselves," they say, "to the fact that in the two years since we were established the underlying position has worsened. We all have to recognize, in fighting back, that our party now has a large Marxist component which will be difficult to oust or weaken. . . . A senior Cabinet Minister, Anthony Wedgwood Benn, has declared that Marxism has a legitimate place in our party and, more seriously, supported the appointment of a Trotskyist-Leninist as Youth Officer. . . . The National Executive Committee has decided to take no disciplinary action following the 'infiltration' report of Reg Underhill, our national organizer. The Prime Minister and other moderates are apologetically content to let this matter

rest."

That is the melancholy truth. If Mr Callaghan were to stir himself sufficiently he could probably check the rot. Beyond a few feeble reproaches and admonitions, he has not chosen to do so.

Why is this? Whence his reluctance? It is because he wishes above everything to remain in office. To do so he is prepared to temporize with the Left, just as he is prepared to accept Liberal support. Politically, he is shameless.

□ No one would have under- stood this better than my old friend Tibor Szamueli, whose important achievements and untimely death are now freshly commemorated with the republication, by Aims for Freedom and Enterprise, of his classic essay *Socialism and Liberty*.

Tibor Szamueli, a Soviet Citizen who became the president of British subjects, was a master of our language, his powers of exposition putting most of us to shame. Freedom was his cause. He belonged to that romantic (and often scholarly) élite, the political pamphleteers who are at once the

authors and the servants of great social purposes. We remember him with affection and respect, and know that his influence lives on.

□ Leave well alone is not a bad precept, and one could wish that it were more frequently observed. But the world is full of meddlers, for ever tinkering and tampering with things better left untouched.

Thus—or hence—the upsurge in the Performing Right Society, a most admirable body which for more than 60 years has served composers and music publishers with care and success, collecting royalties both at home and abroad. But now the meddlers are on the march, seeking change and what they would call reform in the society's well-tryed arrangements.

It is all rather disheartening for the president, Sir Lennox Berkeley, and such devoted members as Mr Vivian Ellis (Bliss the Duke, etc.), who has spent 22 years of the council and is deputy president. Voluntary service is sometimes a thankless task, I fear.

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## The duke, wicked uncles, wome and a whole lot of millions

A mysterious claimant turning up from California to reclaim an ancient title and an inheritance perhaps not unadjacent to £10m sounds the sort of stuff that Victorian romances (or, for that matter, Hollywood dreams) are built on. However, a story to this effect is to be published next year not by a racy publisher of Gothic romances, but by Debert's Peerage Ltd, meticulous, chronicler and genealogist of the upper classes. It concerns the Duke of Leinster (pronounced "Lins-ter"), the Premier Duke, Marquess and Earl of Ireland. And it has wicked uncles, change- lings substituted for rightful heirs, an impostor looked away from the world for 13 years in a lunatic asylum, was wealthy and the other ingredients of cheap fiction. But in this case it may not be fiction.

The FitzGerald, Barons of Offaly, later Earls of Kildare, later still Dukes of Leinster, have owned great tracts of Ireland since before 1203. The monkey on their crest commemorates the tradition that a pet ape saved an infant Earl of Kildare from a fire in the fourteenth century. It is also symbolically apt, for the FitzGerald have always been a family with a simian penchant for mischief. Thomas, the tenth Earl, and his five uncles were hanged, drawn and quartered at Tyburn by Henry VIII.

The recent official history of the family runs as follows. The fifth duke died in 1893. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Maurice, aged six. While Maurice was a minor, his estates were controlled by his uncles. Just after he came of age in 1909 he was committed as a dangerous lunatic to Craigmore, a large asylum in Kildare, where he died unmarried in 1922. Desmond, his brother next in line, had been killed on active service in France in 1916.

Hence the titles passed to the youngest brother, Edward. Edward, the seventh duke, had a picturesque track record even for a FitzGerald: three bankruptcies; four wives; in the 1920s, in order to pay off his debts, he sold his life interest in the dukedom to Mallory Deasley, the founder of the Fifty Shilling Tailors. The seventh duke died in poverty two years ago, a suicide in a Pimlico bed-sitter. He had been succeeded officially by Gerald, Marquess of Kildare, now the eighth duke: the son of his first marriage, a company chairman who runs a flying school at Oxford airport.

Such is the official line. Enter, pursued by solicitors, genealogists, and private detectives, the Californian claimant. A man died in California in 1967 calling himself Maurice Francis FitzGerald. He had claimed to be the rightful Duke of Leinster since 1922, although he made the claim only to his immediate family and other specialists in the fact that there is a case, worth investigating.

Mr Harold Brooks-Baker, managing director of Debert's, says: "The strength and respect of the Upper House of any country rest on the validity of the claim of each holder of a peerage title. It is not for Debert's to say what the present Duke of Leinster is or is not the rightful holder of

that office. It is simply duty to provide the public with the relevant information. We intend to publish all facts in this case in a completely unbiased volume." Some of the facts that researchers have turned up suggestively, some are distasteful, and all, as most of us do with the FitzGerald, are appropriately odd. I mean and photographs, disappeared. People who, we suspect, are a well, in out to be extremely unkind. And a tremendous fortune disappeared; some would have been dissipated by unscrupulous heirs.

The details of the mystery are tangled and, as a result, a summary is short a piece of evidence, a newspaper article, they include hair-raising evidence about the identity and character of the unhappy impostor. The sixth duke, recorded as having died from 1900 to 1904, death certificate records he was an epileptic from onwards; the school in that no child with such a story of epilepsy would have been admitted to school at the time. Diligent readers of personal columns of *Times* over the past few years may have noticed that the hours are not on this issue were.

The supposed duke declared insane in 1909, from that date until his death he never left Craigmore, what was the Court Circular published in *The Times* March 11, 1910, doing recording that the Duke of Leinster had shortly arrived in England from abroad?

Mr John Ford, a research who specializes in legal detective work and is writing *Leinster* book for Debert's, Mr Michael Estorick, knows much about the affairs of the FitzGerald family, as well as, and most of the time of wherever Leinsters go, they die. He has spent a year examining the story and photographs of the Californian claimant, and says: "Our conclusions are that he had a strange knowledge of the FitzGerald family, and it had been a personal knowledge. Some of the details he knew could possibly have been culled through the conventional channels of research, however diligent."

These are deep waters. We were the unfortunate man who died in Edinburgh? Do many missing documents indicate an old conspiracy to hide the facts, or are they coincidences? How did the Californian know so much about the duke and his family? What and why does the bandwagon of the King's Royal Rifle Corps come into the picture? Why did the Californian never sue the claim himself, and let it to his children? What was the terrible family scandal (Hollywood?) that had kept the duke from pursuing it, and, if he was a firm wife did he not make more of it by telling others than his immediate family?

More solid advantages the ancient titles hang on, the answers to these questions. If the Californian is not the rightful heir, he had no right to steal away his inheritance from the Fifty Shilling Tailors. The money they have had for the Leinster estates over the past half century has been worth about £1,000 a week.

Philip Howard

## Clues to the crossword from ancient Egyptians

Papyrus fragments from Greco-Roman Egypt continue to add to our knowledge of ancient literature and life. The forty-fifth volume of *Oxyrhynchus Papyri* has recently been published by the Egypt Exploration Society, bringing the number of items in this series to 3,266. The latest volume includes, besides pieces of works already known, some new fragments of lyric verse, tragedy and comedy, and a number of official and private documents of various dates between 65 and 337 AD.

There is also one text, No 3239, of a quite unique character. It is a memorandum for a word-puzzle with which the writer intended to tease a friend or, more probably, a gathering of friends. It is written on the back of two discarded documents arranged in alphabetical order by the first letter, and next to each in the right-hand column is a word or phrase that defines it, describes it, or has some looser association with it. There were 53 items in all.

The words in the first column were evidently to be guessed from the clues in the second, many of which are remarkably like the clues in the simpler sort of modern crossword. For example, "heavy weight" is "lead"; "a trusty guide" is "scent"; "a word in a spin-basket" is "foreign city"; "the great hope" is "Isis"; "adorns Alexandria" is "Serapis"; "gives wealth at own discretion" is "Fortune".

Not all the clues are quite so straightforward. To guess that "rotten tomatoes" (*sapra tyche*) stood for "bad luck" (*parachute*) one had to be on the alert for anagrams. The solution to "for everyone" is "a garland". Perhaps "for everyone a garland" was a familiar cry on festive occasions. If so, the clue was phrase to be completed, again a favourite form of the modern crossword compiler, though he uses punctuation to show what kind of thing is wanted ("Bonnus").

In other cases the clue calls for free association. The answer to "I'm thirsty" is "water-carrier", and the answer to "vinegar" is "wine".

### Filling the gap...

The compiler made a point of having solutions beginning with each letter of the alphabet in order—sometimes several for one letter, but at least one. At the letter nu, instead of a word with that initial, we find the letter alone, with a blank space in the clue column. The compiler must have been unable to think of a satisfactory word quickly; he went on, meaning to fill the gap later. Presumably, whoever did the puzzle was to be told that the first group of solutions began with alpha, the next with beta, and so on.

It is well known that the ancients amused themselves with riddles, and also with verbal exercises such as palindromes and verses containing every letter of the alphabet. But nothing resembling the new papyrus was hitherto known. With its astonishing anticipations of modern puzzlers' convolutions so often prompted by the study of ancient literature, there is nothing new under the sun.

Prof M. L. West

\*The *Oxyrhynchus Papyri*, Volume 45, ed. by A. K. Bowman, M. W. Haslam, S. A. Stephens and M. L. West (Greco-Roman Memoirs, No 63), published by the British Academy for the Egypt Exploration Society, 1977.

## On the button, or how to pin down your message on other people's lapels

For less than £100 you can put 1,000 people on the streets each proclaiming "Mickey Mouse is a sexist pig" or "Roses have feelings too". Perhaps you might like to tell the world about the Cleethorpes People's Liberation Movement, "Robin Hood rules OK" or "Bring back the strapin'".

The money will buy not the legendary, even mythical, "strapin'" but what might be loosely called "remittance". For the age of demonstrations, sit-ins, teach-ins, work-ins, et al has brought with it the campaign badge. Few are the controversies and cause célèbres of the past, few years which have not spawned a badge.

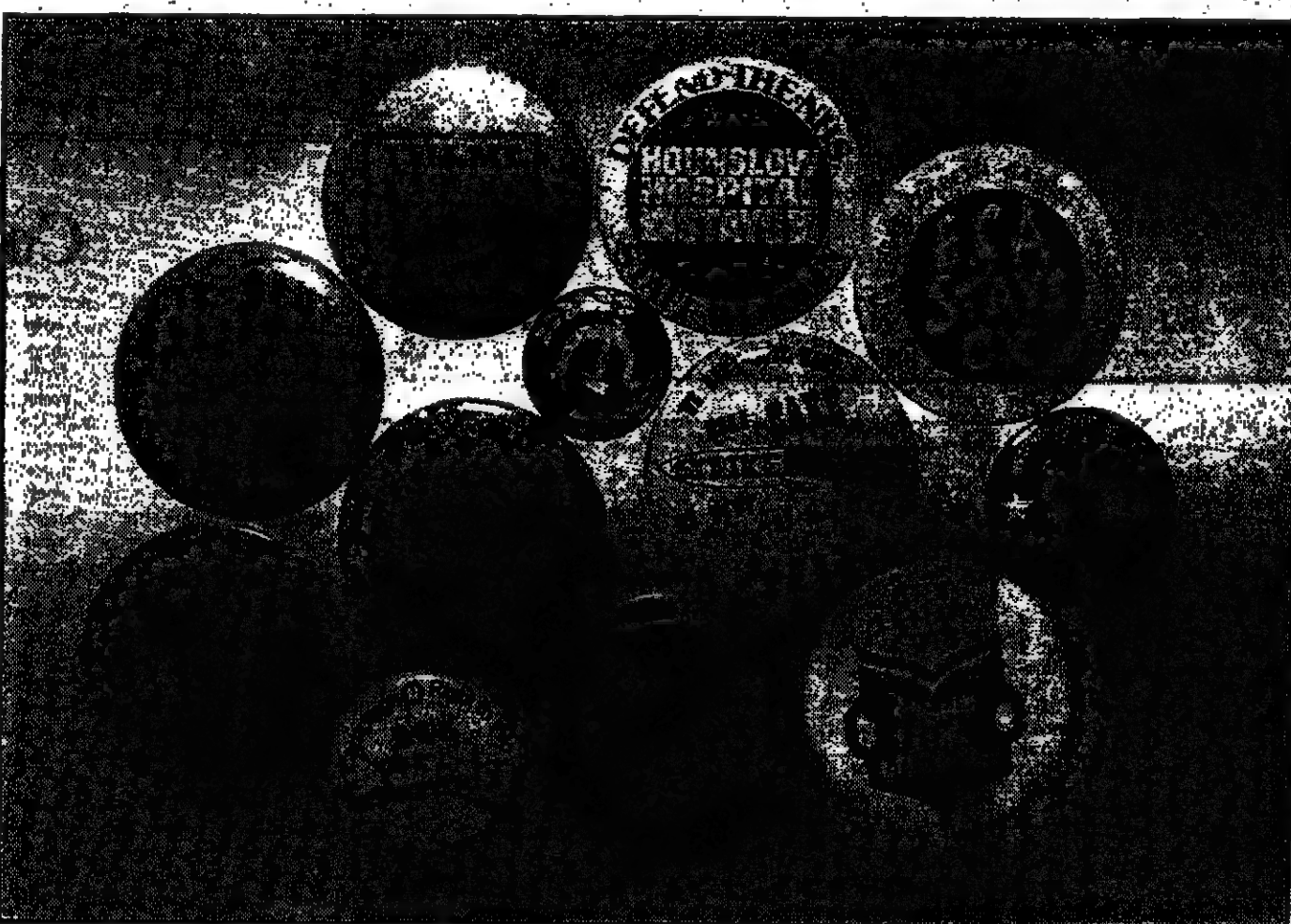
In times to come fashionable museums will no doubt hold exhibitions of collections annotating their exhibits with a note on the campaign and its success. Who knows but that a bright young socialist historian of the year 2007 will base a thesis on the protest movements of the late twentieth-century with an examination of the badges.

He might well begin with the records of a factory in Bethnal Green, East London, which could lay claim to being the largest producer of campaign badges. The Universal Button Company has produced badges for the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Anti-Apartheid, the Young Liberals and the women's campaign in 1974.

The work remains a minor part of production but has expanded to the point where 500 of one campaign badge or another is being made at any one time. There are also export orders. The most constant customers appear to be of the left and especially the International Socialists, who sent an emissary last week from outside Grunwick to strike a campaign medal.

Unfortunately the badges were wanted within 24 hours and the firm could not oblige. The order was not placed because the International Socialists feared the picketing would be over by the time the badges arrived.

The various gay liberation



groups have also built up a constant volume of business and the firm has a separate collection of past orders. Those so inclined have been able to announce "How dare you presume I'm heterosexual" (on a lilac background) or "Take liberties with me".

Political observers will be interested to note that the Liberals among the established political groups appear to be the most badge conscious and in the past the firm has done work for Mr David Steel himself.

The advantage to customers

lies not only in being able to spread a campaign's message but also in supplementing funds since the badges can be sold as a profit to supporters. They also have the pleasure of constructing slogans which will amuse, annoy and embarrass. Advertising agencies seeking copy writers could fruitfully cast an eye over some of the current badges.

At the moment supporters of the three men facing trial under the Official Secrets Act could saunter down Whitehall telling passing mandarins "I'm a secu-

rity risk" or flash their lapel at a Minister and exhort him to "Tell me your official secrets".

The message though is not always so clear. No one seems to know who wanted "Rock against racism". At the moment, "MDC not guilty right" is being produced, but the firm wonders who MDC and C are.

Orders are rarely turned down unless they are obscene—like the recent gentleman who wished to express his sexual

aspirations forthrightly—or if the badges refer to an issue considered too contentious.

They were hesitant about one recent order but decided to go ahead. Having made over 500,000 badges to mark the jubilee they were asked in March to make "Stuff the Jubilee" badges. What started as an order for 4,000 has grown now to 48,000 and one of the largest sales of all the campaign badges they have produced.

Stewart Tendler

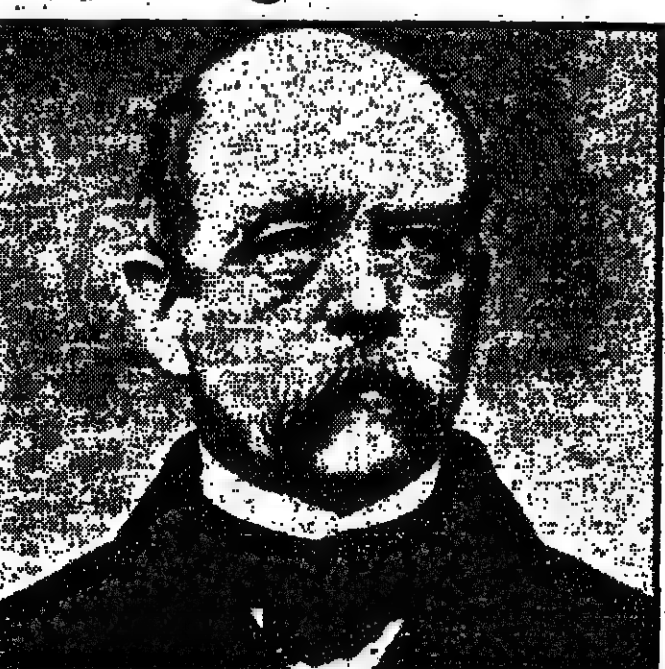
## How Bismarck's editing sent Prussia to war against France

The sub-editing or "subbing" of copy sent in by correspondents is a process which goes on in every newspaper. One purpose of "subbing" is to improve the correspondent's often hastily-composed dispatch, and, by cutting out unnecessary verbiage, to render it stronger, clearer, and with greater impact on readers.

The most glaring example in history of this process with far-reaching consequences was the famous Ems telegram, which was edited by Bismarck in such a way as to cause the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian war in 1870. The crushing defeat of France in that war led to the military domination of Europe by a united Germany.

The events which preceded the Ems telegram were as follows. Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, a relation of the King of Prussia, had put forward his candidature for the vacant throne of Spain. This had caused a furore in France, where the candidature was seen as an attempt by Prussia to revive the vast sixteenth-century empire of Charles V and alter the European balance of power to France's disadvantage.

The Prussian Chancellor, Bismarck, who for his own reasons was quite keen on a war with France, had engineered the Hohenzollern claim. The crisis taken out of Bismarck's sails a few days later, however, when the Hohenzollern candidature was suddenly and unexpectedly withdrawn. This was a diplomatic victory for France. But the French, under the Emperor Napoleon III, most impor-



Bismarck: he altered the Ems telegram to anger France.

tantly "pushed their luck" by demanding guarantees from the King of Prussia that he would never again support a German candidate for the Spanish throne.

King William I of Prussia received the French ambassador, Count Benedetti, at Ems on July 13, 1870. Despite the ambassador's insistence, he refused to give the guarantees the French wanted. An account of the interview was telegraphed to Bismarck in Paris. It was the Ems telegram, and it was Bismarck's editing of this telegram which led to the outbreak of war.

All the history books recount this event, but few if any tell in detail how Bismarck actually changed the Ems telegram. For instance, Fritz Stern, in his recently-published life of Bismarck, *Gold and Iron*, merely writes: "Bismarck edited William's account so as to make it appear a humiliating defiance of France"; and most other histories say something similar. . . . what Bismarck actually did is not merely of linguistic interest but also a classic example of "news management" with a purpose. This was the relevant passage of the message (sent by a Prus-

sian Foreign Ministry official) as Bismarck received it:

As His Majesty had told Count Benedetti that he was waiting for news from the Prince, His Majesty decided, in respect of the above request, on the advice of Count Eulenburg and myself, not to receive Count Benedetti again, but to inform him through an adjutant that His Majesty had now received from the Prince confirmation of the news which Benedetti had already had from Paris and that he had nothing further to say to the ambassador.

When Bismarck had finished with the message it read as follows:

His Majesty the King thereupon refused to receive the French ambassador again, and had him informed, through a duty adjutant, that His Majesty had nothing further to communicate to the ambassador.

This he issued immediately to the press.

It is an interesting example of how, without altering the sense, by a little rewording of the language and the removal of subordinate clauses, verbal cotton-wool can be forged into a sword. Bismarck got what he wanted. France, humiliated and affronted, declared war next day.

David Hotham

### Tidy out

She has not crossed my mind for years and yet, seeing her name in an old address book, I flinch.

Christopher Logue

## Saving the seals may help us to save ourselves

The long and resolute battle to save the Mediterranean monk seal from extinction, has just been won in Greece. A group of dedicated islanders in the western Aegean, which is now the habitat of a small community of seals, has just been proclaimed by presidential decree a protected marine park.

*Monachus monachus*, the diligent and intelligent monk seal, whose history was traced back to antiquity, is in danger because of pollution, environmental changes, and overfishing. Of the tens of thousands that once thrived in the Mediterranean, only about 500 are estimated to be alive in the world today.

The struggle to save the monk seal from extinction is being waged by the Greek Society for the Protection of Nature, which has been pressing the government to establish special reserves, but above all by two foreign zoologists, one German and one Canadian, who spent several years here in study the monk seal.

It was Dr Thomas Schulze-Westrum, the German zoologist, who first explored the group of uninhabited islands in the northern Sporades, where a community of 40 monk seals get up their home, fleeing evidently the more polluted regions of the Mediterranean.

Dr Schulze-Westrum, who spent 20 years in this area, had obtained a promise from the fishermen of nearby Alonissos that they would not shoot the seals in exchange for his recommendation to the Greek government to pay the fishermen compensation because the seals tear their nets and steal their fish.

The presidential decree now regulates the fishing season in



The first ever photograph of a Mediterranean monk seal, taken by Dr Schulze-Westrum.

the area, while some islands which are particularly favoured by the seals, are completely out of bounds.

The surviving Mediterranean seals have also found sanctuary in the small, uninhabited islands between Crete, Karpathos and the Cyclades. Here Dr Kenneth Ronald, dean of the College of Biological Sciences at the University of Guelph in Canada, has been waging a one-man battle to save them from extinction.

The professor has often been seen island-hopping by helicopter to explain to the Greek

fishermen why they should not exterminate the seals. His arguments are quite impressive as Prof Ronald believes that the seal holds the key to man's survival in the sea.

There are strong physiological similarities, for instance, between the seal and man. Therefore he hopes that research may one day reveal the secret of what is known as the seal's "diving reflex": a seal, in fact, can take seven breaths on the surface, then dive as deep as 650ft, stay below for almost 90 minutes, then shoot back to the surface without suffering any ill effects.

This means that although the seal's body is deprived of oxygen, it suffers no damage. This "reflex" mechanism could be copied, it would be a significant breakthrough in the treatment of cardiovascular disorders.

Another unusual feature in the seal is its ability to absorb into itself a vast amount of chemical pollutants and pesticides that eventually find their way to the sea. This purgative mechanism is probably located in the seal's liver. If it could be copied, it might provide the answer to mankind's losing battle against the toxic effect of pollutants. Scientists are now carrying out research on this aspect.

Dr Ronald is in favour of a worldwide campaign by scientists to save the Mediterranean seal so that it does not disappear like the Caribbean seal seen by Christopher Columbus as early as 1493, which recently became extinct. He said: "If the seal cannot survive in the Mediterranean, then man himself may not be able to."

Mario Modiano





New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## DO THEY HAVE THE WILL TO GOVERN?

It has been a bad week for the government, but possibly quite so bad as it might be at first glance. The Conservative candidate, Mr. John Gummer, was defeated in the Saffron Walden constituency. The Liberal candidate, Mr. John Gummer, was defeated in the Saffron Walden constituency. The Conservative candidate, Mr. John Gummer, was defeated in the Saffron Walden constituency. The Liberal candidate, Mr. John Gummer, was defeated in the Saffron Walden constituency.

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The details of an, however, points in more than one direction. The most acceptable conclusion is that the Conservative candidate, Mr. John Gummer, was defeated in the Saffron Walden constituency. The Liberal candidate, Mr. John Gummer, was defeated in the Saffron Walden constituency.

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from former Labour supporters as the best means of defeating the Tory.

That theory has not now been proved, but it has at least been kept alive. The Liberal lost votes and won a rather smaller percentage of the poll; but he fared much better than Labour in face of the Tory tide. Not only has the Liberal hold on the second place been retained but the lead over Labour has been doubled. That is certainly consistent with a number of voters moving from Labour to Liberal as others have switched from Liberal to Conservative.

This does not offer the Liberals electoral justification for the pact, but it does mean that they can still hope to attract radical Labour votes in critical seats where they could mean all the difference. They have done well enough at Saffron Walden not to want to wait the pace up immediately, but not so well that they dare risk an early election.

Despite the poor Labour performance at Saffron Walden, therefore, the Government's chances of a further breathing space have in fact been improved. The question is whether they are in any condition to use it. The rebuffs they are receiving at the hands of the unions may turn out to be more damaging politically than economically. The chances of an effective phase three are remote, but with the present levels of unemployment and business activity that may not lead to such extravagant wage increases as many people fear. Yet ministers have publicly attached so much

importance to achieving a phase three of consequence that their failure to obtain it is bound further to undermine confidence in their capacity to govern. That confidence must have been even more shaken by their unseemly performance over the direct elections Bill. For six Cabinet ministers and twenty-six junior ministers to vote against a measure honouring a Government obligation is in itself deplorable. What would the trade unions have said if six members of the Cabinet had responded in that way to part of the social contract on behalf of which Mr. Callaghan had promised to use his best endeavours? Would they not have suggested somewhat vigorously that the endeavours ought to have been a good deal better than that?

But this episode is also an indication of a lack of cohesion within the Government that has every appearance of persisting. This is not just an isolated incident. It is an example of two trends that are both damaging to the Government's prospects. The first is a refusal by a minority of ministers to accept the fact of British membership of the EEC. The second trend is for some ministers to have accepted implicitly the prospect of defeat and to be preparing for the internal battles that will follow. That is not the mark of a government that retains the will to govern.

democracies are heading into inevitable decline, that the Russians are the ascendant power, and that the main axis of east-west relations is to negotiate the least unfavourable shift in the world balance. Mr. Carter is returning to the traditional American belief that democracy is the better, stronger and more revolutionary system, and that the desire for freedom is innate in most men and represents not moral luxury but a potent political force that properly belongs to the American tradition. He sees no reason why Russia should claim parity over true liberation movements (as distinct from those which merely use the name) and why he should not challenge the Russians to the sort of ideological and political competition which they always say is wholly consistent with détente, and indeed an essential element in their own doctrine of peaceful coexistence. His desire to raise the moral norms of international behaviour and make human rights a matter of international concern are also springs from genuine religious belief, which the Russians find difficult to believe.

Of course this makes life difficult for the Russian leaders. They are elderly men who do not adapt easily to change. They thought they had established a fairly cosy relationship with the United States in which they were getting the deference due to a great power and implicit acknowledgment of their right to dominate certain parts of the world. They thought that the United States would spend longer licking its wounds after Vietnam and Watergate, instead of which it is bouncing back. They thought their military power would increase their political influence, instead of which it has provoked a reaction against their ideological influence would increase, instead of which it has been sharply reduced, especially among the communists and other left wing forces of western Europe.

In other words, the balance seems to be tilting against them at precisely the moment when they expected it to be doing the opposite, and they are now being

challenged where they least expected and least welcome it—not only in power politics and military technology but also in morals and ideology. President Carter's open espousal of human rights has unsettled them not only because they fear instability in eastern Europe and among their own nationalities but because it hurts their pride and puts them on trial before world opinion. The Russian leaders are emotional people. They believe their military power and other achievements entitled them to a certain respect. Mr. Kissinger understood this. Mr. Carter, they feel, does not. He humiliates them.

Mr. Carter is, of course, taking certain risks. A truculent and resentful Soviet Union is not going to be easy to live with, and could be dangerous. If emotions rise too high, feelings do play a role in political behaviour. There are also dangers in encouraging the more primitive elements in the Soviet hierarchy during the struggle for power over the succession to Mr. Brezhnev. But the risks should not be exaggerated. Moreover, Mr. Carter tried soft-pedalling human rights for a while and the only thanks he got was the arrest of even more Soviet dissidents. Neither side has any real alternative but to struggle to expand the areas of cooperation, even while continuing competition. Tempting though it may be for the Russians either to turn on themselves or to take more risks in confronting the United States, neither option would be likely to bring them real advantage. Unless unreason suddenly prevails they are locked into their uncomfortable relationship with the United States and will eventually have to come to terms with a president who is not so much changing the rules as seeking more equal advantage under them. Perhaps in the long run the Russians will even look a bit more closely and see that he is in fact offering them far more opportunities for co-operation—in arms control and the third world, for instance—than they are ready to take up. Mr. Carter does not bear all the blame for bad relations.

and deal Guatemalan justice to the alien and English-speaking peoples of the country. Mr. Price has argued so effectively that countries as different in political complexion as Cuba and Panama, have even hinted at military support to Belize.

Guatemala is excited at this juncture for several reasons. One is the steady moral support Mr. Price has built up. Another is the onset of elections early next year, with a right-wing party outflanking the Government with demands to confront Britain and have done with it before the prize is lost. Equally, there is a pro-Castro left-wing party that is opposed, though whether it is ever got power it would abandon the hoary claim is conjectural. Over the years Britain has grown feeble, and Guatemala has re-equipped its forces. When the equipment was American there was perhaps some restraint; now that Israel is selling arms perhaps there is less. Thus, though Guatemala may back down again, the possibility of a new threat will remain. Britain has a solemn responsibility to Belize—to ensure that it can become peacefully independent. Happily in this it is wholly at one with the rest of world opinion. Mr. Rowlands' report will be awaited with interest.

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pendent. But the United Nations anti-colonial committee would make trouble. Britain has always shrunk from a unilateral and open-ended guarantee, and the international force is not visible. In these circumstances neither Mr. George Price, the Premier, nor the opposition leaders are prepared to risk independence.

For Guatemala clings to a claim that goes back (dubiously) to the Pope in the sixteenth century, and is invalidated by a British presence for 300 years. The only leg of the Guatemalan argument which stands is that in return for agreeing the border in 1859 Britain promised to build a road from Belize to Guatemala City, and never did. It could still be done—others have suggested a pipeline or a housing scheme in lieu. But Guatemala has no greater claim than that, if as much. The arbitration of 1966-68 accepted Belize's right to independence. Mr. Price has exerted himself in explaining the position to other member states of the United Nations and has convinced almost all of them that there is no question of British imperialism and that the sole impediment to independence (which the United Nations approves) is Guatemala's proclaimed intention to march in—

## Deciding what is newsworthy

From Mr Maurice Cheeswright  
Sir, In my days as a reporter and foreign correspondent we lived by the ethic that "we only report the news" and took pride in making sure that what we wrote was accurate, conceded nothing to fear or favour, and paid some regard to both sides in a conflict. We saw the news as being to a large extent self-selecting; when an issue came to a head in a single event of physical or verbal drama that made it news. As an editor, though with a somewhat wider view of the media's responsibilities, I think I still accepted this concept of "news".

Subsequent experience has persuaded me how dangerously inadequate it is, and the point is clinched by the fact that organizations of every kind—from churches and charities to Trotskyites and just persons—now deliberately order their actions with a view to gaining maximum attention in the media. So instead of spontaneous outbursts which might be said to indicate a deep and genuine opinion, we have situations that are deliberately contrived to manipulate the media. Everyone does it, not only those who can afford a PR. And the trouble is that the advantage always seems to go with the aggressor/initiator, even when the press goes through the motions (as it almost invariably does) of consulting the aggrieved.

This leads me to the point that I think your previous correspondence has been either missed or dodged, namely that even if it was once true that the news was by some indefinable but easily recognizable yardstick self-selecting it is no longer so. Therefore unless the Government has a completely moral view of its function it seems inescapable that he should weigh carefully, not merely the superficial balance and accuracy of what he writes, but its context and consequences.

This is a most uncomfortable and perhaps inhibiting responsibility to lay upon his shoulders; one moreover which may appear to offer no commercial return (though I often think that we underestimate the critical faculties of the general public). But there remains the alternative, other than registration or censorship. Yours.

MAURICE CHEESWRIGHT,  
Information and Publications  
Division,  
The Registry,  
University of Birmingham,  
July 1.

## Grumwick rates of pay

From Dr M. J. Bullivant  
Sir, Professor Alan Day, writing in the June 29 issue of the *Correspondent*, states that the Grumwick dispute makes the comparison between Grumwick rates of pay and the national average rates for women and girls published by the Department of Employment. He uses of these two and four years, and it must be remembered that such sentences are subject to an automatic period of one-third remission. In 1975 only 28 per cent of those convicted were sentenced to more than five years. Much must depend on what is meant by "heavy sentence" which must in turn be based upon the imputed gravity of the offence.

There must be thousands of ordinary laymen—and women—who regard rape as one of the most

## When the elms have gone

From the Director General of the Forestry Commission  
Sir, I wish to compliment you on your well balanced and informed article "When the elms have gone" which appeared on June 11 and add one or two comments on some of the correspondence resulting from it over the past weeks.

I wholeheartedly agree with the views expressed by Mr John Cripp (June 18). Chairman of the Countryside Commission, on the need to replace elm in the countryside with other species, and acknowledge the significant financial contribution made available by the Countryside Commission to those individuals and local authorities who are involved in replacement tree planting schemes.

In another letter on the subject Mr A. Geoffrey Booth (June 18) writes of the achievements of foresters and landowners in Essex in establishing new coppice shelter belts and hedgerows. We sincerely hope that their fine example will be emulated by other farmers and landowners who can now take advantage of the new Small Woods Scheme recently announced by the Government. Under this scheme, which comes into effect from October 1, the Forestry Commission will give grants of £300 per hectare for areas as small as one quarter of a hectare (0.5 of an acre) and up to three hectares, and £250 per hectare for slightly larger areas of between three and four hectares. This scheme has been introduced in order to stimulate the establishment of small woods and will give particular emphasis to the planting of broadleaved species in the lowlands. Mr Booth makes an additional point that the elm in southern Britain may not be on the verge of

## Israel and torture

From Mr Peter Kellner  
Sir, Your report today (July 8) from Gaza by Mr Bernard Edinger of Reuters raises some interesting points concerning our article on June 19, "Israel and Torture".

Some of the allegations he heard from Palestinian prisoners about Israeli interrogation techniques are similar to allegations we found in complaints that prisoners were beaten, or made to stand against a wall while they were hooded, or left manacled naked. Mr Edinger also says, however, that none claimed to have been electrically tortured.

This is not in the least surprising. Gaza, as your report observed, has been relatively quiet since 1971, and the allegations we heard of the most severe forms of ill-treatment and torture since then have come almost entirely from West Bank, not Gaza, Arabs. (This should be

## Reforming the House of Lords

From Lord Gage

Sir, As a Conservative hereditary peer, I do not doubt that those charges of being prejudiced, ignorant and now I suppose geriatric, that have been accorded to my kind ever since I succeeded to the House of Lords over 55 years ago. I have sometimes wondered whether any body of legislators anywhere have ever been subjected to this sort of thing for so long without apparent result whatever. Of course, there have been numerous discussions, often very long ones, about possible schemes for reform, but none of these have received enough support as to constitute a scheme to put before the electorate.

But I reflect that it was during such a discussion in 1946 that a phrase was coined by the Labour Government of the day which has coloured the situation ever since. Lord Morrison of Lambeth, who was in 1946 the Lord Chancellor of the Council in his book *Crown and Politics*, published in 1956, put it in these words: "The very irrationality of the composition of the House of Lords and its quaintness have safeguarded for our modern British Democracy. And so we continue, quaint but pursuing."

Mr Morrison, as he was then, saw clearly something which eventually became clear to anyone who sees out to invent a new second chamber for this country, in that the House tends either to be so weak that nobody who is any good would wish to join it, or so strong that it would menace the House of Commons and possibly some form of proportional representation as well as Lords reform on the programme, will have plenty of constitutional problems to think about at the next election.

But if the House's very modest intervention was intolerable, continued intervention by an elected

## Sentencing policy

From Professor Terence Morris

Sir, In your report this morning (June 29) of the correspondence between the Lord Chancellor and Mr Jack Ashley, MP, you print an extract from Criminal Statistics for 1974 and 1975 and the comment:

"These figures show beyond argument that the Crown Court does not shrink from passing heavy sentences on rapists and murderers."

Examination of the data shows very clearly that the matter is very much subject to argument. Of the 328 men sentenced for rape in 1974 only 241, or about 75 per cent, received sentences of immediate imprisonment. A policy of passing heavy sentences by would, if it were followed, produce an imprisonment rate much closer to 100 per cent quite apart from the length of sentences imposed.

But when one comes to examine the length of sentence it becomes clear that the sentences most frequently passed are between two and four years, and it must be remembered that such sentences are subject to an automatic period of one-third remission. In 1975 only 28 per cent of those convicted were sentenced to more than five years. Much must depend on what is meant by "heavy sentence" which must in turn be based upon the imputed gravity of the offence.

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## Reducing television hours

From Mr J. F. O'Neill

Sir, Reports that commercial television plans for "breakfast television" have been shelved after the seemingly abject results of a nine week experiment in the Yorkshire and Tyne Tees areas (audiences sometimes as low as 100,000 are alleged), should not really surprise us. Let's face it, television viewing is probably Britain's number one pastime and rightly so, for nothing gives better value for money, but against all evidence to the contrary I believe we are infinitely more choosy, and certainly less inclined to accept trivialities than our American cousins for whom almost round the clock programmes are commonplace.

When my company recently conducted a definitive survey into the nation's viewing habits and asked viewers if they would accept a cut in television hours on all channels if this would stop the licence fee going up, there was an overwhelming "yes" from no fewer than 85 per cent of those questioned. When asked at what time of the day they would accept a two hour cut to keep the licence fee steady, 23 per cent opted for "late night", i.e. after 11.00 pm, 22 per cent for "before noon" and 21 per cent for the afternoon. A surprising 16 per cent said they would accept cuts between 6.00 pm and 11.00 pm if this would do the trick!

Though the vote obviously indicates that viewers feel they are paying enough already and would do anything rather than pay more for a licence, I believe it also reflects the fact that they prefer content to form. They repeat, second rate ideas, old films and factory belt American film series are obviously taking their toll. Except for rare occasions like Jubilee Day there must be a link to the hours during which genuine peak viewing can be attracted and it may be that viewers would rather have really first class programmes over a shorter period than have them spread widely and interspersed with the second rate. If this means the Government should sanction a slight increase in advertising time allowed per hour to compensate for any loss of programme hours, I believe viewers would accept this readily as a means to an end. Yours faithfully,

J. F. O'NEILL,  
Marketing Director,  
Pye Limited,  
PO Box 49,  
St Andrews Road,  
Cambridge,  
July 1.

## 'A Bridge Too Far'

From Mr E. A. R. Switters

Sir, I quite agree with Mr Warrack's opinion (Letters, July 2) on *A Bridge Too Far*. The public seems divided into thinking that a conscientious re-creation of an historic event has been made.

It should perhaps not be forgotten that a documentary film was made during the battle of September 1944, when the company of my mother, at one moment, soldiers are seen fighting and dying in a bedroom, in the last house before the bridge. This was my mother's bedroom when she attended Lady Van Limburg Strum's "Klein Tadmara" school.

As most instances in this recent film have been inspired by reality, I must assume that the lady who is seen being rescued by a recently acquired? I enquire when her house is shot to bits, and who is killed when she runs into the street, represents Lady Van Limburg Strum.

As a matter of fact she was very ill and dying when the Battle of Arnhem began. Bedridden, she was unable to leave her house, and had to watch Hitler's soldiers pour petrol over her (inherited) furniture. When there was a short cessation of hostilities, she was ordered to wheel a cart to her probably already burning house, and bring her out of it. But, as firing broke out again, these three ladies could not get away to another house, and had to take shelter under a tree on the road. There, after a life of devotion to a good cause, Lady Van Limburg Strum died a natural death.

I see her revived so differently in this mediocre film is thoroughly disgusting. I am, dear Sir, your most humble and obedient servant, Sincerely yours,

E. A. R. SWITTERS,  
Pier 1, Aarschot 103bs,  
1074 PV Amsterdam,  
Kingdom of the Netherlands,  
July 6.

## Ice cream in Germany

From Miss Susan Moore

Sir, I would like to point out to Mr Spike Hughes (Letter, June 28) that Germans do not call ice-cream *Gefrorene* (the suggestion caused a handful of them considerable puzzlement). They simply call it *Eis* or occasionally *Biskrem*. Yours faithfully,

SUSAN MOORE,  
4000 Düsseldorf 12,  
Mühlentweg 24.

## The use of 'Chinaman'

From Mr Y. S. Chen

Sir, Please allow me to express my doubts on what Mr David Tang wrote in his letter today (July 5) that much of the word "Chinaman" has disappeared nowadays. He may render "Chinaman" merely as a native of China in his dictionary, but to most of the educated Chinese it is still an offensive word and does not wish to be called.

What appears to be true is that you don't hear young children on the street shouting at Chinese people "Chin, Chin, Chinaman" today as they did frequently when I first came to this country forty years ago. Perhaps Mr Enoch Powell will take note of this. Yours faithfully,  
Y. S. CHEN,  
Reform Club,  
Pall Mall, SW1,  
July 5.

From Mr D. R. Forrester  
Sir, While I am unable to join Mr Peggrevy-Johnson's "77" Club, it was interesting to note that at noon today the *Financial Times* Index was down 7.7.  
Yours faithfully,  
D. R. FORRESTER,  
The Stock Exchange, EC2,  
July 7.







# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

Personal investment and finance, pages 16 and 17

### S recovery accelerating with more employment and a sharp fall in prices

Frank Vogel

London, July 8

Britain's economy is now showing a more rapid recovery than was widely expected. The official figures for the first quarter of 1977 show that the rate of growth in the economy has risen to 1.1 per cent, compared with 0.8 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1976. This is a significant improvement, particularly in view of the fact that the economy was expected to be in a recession.

The recovery is being driven by a combination of factors. One of the main reasons is the sharp fall in prices, which has led to a rise in demand. Another factor is the increase in employment, which has helped to boost the economy.

The recovery is also being helped by the fact that the economy is now showing signs of a more rapid recovery than was widely expected. This is a significant improvement, particularly in view of the fact that the economy was expected to be in a recession.

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leaving the Federal Reserve

Board show that the growth in

the money stock continues to

be roughly in line with the Fed's

targets and this news has

dampened speculation in the

markets of some tightening of

credit policies.

Citibank in New York

announced today that it was

maintaining its prime lending

rate at 5 1/2 per cent for the time

being.

All of these new announce-

ments, most notably the bal-

ance report, helped to raise

share prices across a broad

front in early trading on Wall

Street today, and may also

serve to stabilize the dollar,

which has recently been under

substantial pressure.

The employment figures show

that further declines in the job-

less rates were registered last

month among adult males and

heads of households. These

figures will widely be taken by

economists as further evidence

of a general improvement in

the economy's health.

The actual rise in unemployment

was because of sharp gains

in the number of women and

teenagers joining the labour

force for the first time.

An exceptionally strong fall

of 6.3 per cent in seasonally

adjusted farm product prices

helped to cut wholesale prices

after a 2.5 per cent decline in

the first month since January of

a decline of 2.7 per cent, after

a rise in the previous month

of 1.8 per cent.

Few economists believe that

food and farm prices will con-

tinue to decline despite the

prospects of a near-record har-

vest. Today's figures are par-

ticularly encouraging as indus-

trial commodity prices were

seen to have risen by just 0.3

per cent, the smallest such

monthly gain since December

last year.

The wholesale price index is

now 6.2 per cent up on 12

months ago at 194.5 (1967

equals 100).

Mr. Bert Lance, the White

House director of the Office of

Management and Budget, noted

in an interview published today

in The New York Times, that it

now looks as if the overall

economy statistics for the

second quarter of this year may

prove to be even better than

those for the first quarter.

He said: "We might even

see, overall, a little improve-

ment on the official mid-year

forecast on output, unemploy-

ment and inflation for the rest

of the year."

Mr. Lance said there would

be no need for new measures to

stimulate the economy this

year or next year, although he

noted that the President's tax

reform plans may involve some

general tax cuts that would

have some stimulative effect.

Finally, a new report by the

Argus Research Corporation,

which is partly based upon an

analysis of 370 large companies,

concludes that corporate profits

in the second quarter of this

year are likely to be 20 per

cent to 25 per cent above those

for the first quarter, which

amounts to an advance of about

15 per cent over the levels in

the second quarter of 1976.

The Law Lords concurred

with the view that employees

who successfully concealed sub-

stantial sums from their employers

might be able to obtain substantial

sums.

Mr. Booth and his legal

advisers will be studying the

way in which part of the Trade

Union and Labour Relations

Act, which spells out for tri-

parties the criteria for determin-

ing unfair dismissals and com-

penation, has been amended by

the House of Lords, that Parlia-

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## PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

## Unit trusts

## Will investors renew their trust in units?

Someone once remarked that the same amount of money was always around—it was just the pockets that changed. While the observation may, Jack academic merit, the sentiments should appeal to many in the unit trust industry who ponder their fortunes over past and future years.

Recent figures show how dependent sales have become on the insurance-linked arm of the industry—while longer-term analyses of personal investment patterns demonstrate rather brutally how the investor's attraction for unit trusts has faded in relation to other savings media.

First quarterly figures from the Unit Trust Association (which show the proportion of linked life business in overall sales of units) revealed that direct net new investment in units (excluding linked business) went into an unprecedented reverse of £5m or so over the period.

Admittedly, these figures included a particularly bad month at the beginning of the year, but the increasing dominance of the insurance connection has been a feature of the industry for some time. In 1975, for instance, sales of units through insurance policies came to £69.6m out of a total of £190.3m net new investment. In 1976 it was £88.3m out of £167.5m.

The industry is not alarmed—and neither should it be—because a sale is a sale. The large management groups such as Save & Prosper and M & G have captive insurance companies that supply a flow of

contractual savings into units with a regularity that is dear to the average fund manager's heart. Many other groups have links with insurance companies. But it is the concept (much lauded in the 1960s) of the unit trust as the most attractive haven for small, lump sum investment that is now so definitely, and perhaps permanently, in eclipse.

Its share of the savings market has declined sharply. Government figures for the personal financial sector show net new sales to individuals (excluding institutions) falling from £203m in 1972 to £79m in 1976.

Investors were not putting their trust in units but over the same period building equity deposits grew from £1,139m to £3,580m and sales of National Savings Certificates and Bonds went from £258m to £430m (with, it must be admitted, a few hiccups in between).

Many in the industry think that the lump sum investor will not be back. An exception is Mr Edgar Palmour, of M & G, who, as befits the chairman of the Unit Trust Association, thinks that the industry is over the hump, having convinced the public of the benefits of equity end unit trust investment.

Mr Brian Banks, at Britannia, feels that with the trauma of the stock market collapse only now, after a half year behind them, investors are fighting shy of new investment in units. Some of his orthodox sell-off funds have been in a net redemption position for some time.

Selling unit trust holdings is an easy initial solution when middle class incomes feel the squeeze.

Mr David Mainland, at Save & Prosper, describes his group as "soldiering on", but is conscious of the fact that the industry has a poor sales pitch at present for anything other than contractual savings or high yield and overseas funds.

The public response to recent stock market issues he regards as "squeezing money" out of a sign of public demand for equity investment vehicles.

So what is life like for those not closely linked into the contractual savings market? Mr Mark St Giles, at Allied Hambro, believes the situation gives his company a better selling edge with the insurance brokers, accountants and solicitors through whom much of the unit trust funds are now channelled.

Although Hambro Life, the sister insurance company, holds about 60 per cent of its units at present, the contractual element is with Hambro Life, not the management group. He has not been in a net redemption situation. While agreeing that the general public is no longer a presence in the market he believes that there are other areas, such as funds controlled by trustees, which "can be opened up".

Despite the problems of the industry, it has attracted some a respite, new blood over the past few years. Lawson Securities and Piccadilly Fund Managers are two groups that have achieved good growth in funds under management—but



Mr Edgar Palmour, chairman of the Association of Unit Trust Managers: the industry is over the hump.

this is a function partly of their fairly small size. But the few successes are being achieved by dint of a very energetic marketing approach; the industry is not going to sell on its performance. Although the average unit trust may perform reason-

ably against the all-share index, inflation, rather than the indices, must now be the yardstick by which the general public measures performance. The risk-reward ratio in stock market investment has not been encouraging; present levels are

roughly what they were five years ago. Classically, the unit holder piles in when the market starts going up—or rather when it has gone up, but fails to cash in his units at the right point in the cycle.

Some managers think that this will happen again. Others think the traditional unit holder is wary of ever piling in with his money again.

The specialist funds—the gold and commodity funds, for instance—should continue to interest the well-informed investor, who can take an educated short-term view.

Although long-term investment for capital growth has, as far as the average middle-class fund is concerned, not lived up to the promises of the 1960s boom, there have been some very real successes on the rather more sedate income front, and this is one area of growing demand—witness this week's launch of the new Trustee Savings Bank Income fund.

Many managers themselves have reverted to the classical theories of investment—that the object of equities is to provide steadily rising income. One fund manager went so far as to say that "capital growth was a matter of supreme indifference".

But looking back at the heady days of 1968 and 1969 when a weekend newspaper advertisement once pulled in £9m for one unit trust fund, it is hard to reach the conclusion that the industry has a great future behind it.

Margaret Drummond

## AVERAGE DISCOUNTS FROM RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICES (%)

	Co-op	Discount stores	Dept stores	Multiple specialists	Independent
Photographic goods	5	14	9	8	8
Consumer electronics	22	28	23	23	19
Carpet	20	23	25	18	21
Books	11	25	15	15	18
Kitchen furniture	12	17	16	9	12
Living room furniture	5	16	7	3	9
Fabrics	7	—	6	—	—
Clothing	5	—	1	2	1
Footwear	1	—	1	—	—
Hardware	21	31	16	20	19
Groceries	12	18	10	12	10
Spirits	14	—	8	11	10
Toiletries	16	28	16	12	13
ALL SECTORS*	12	20	12	11	12

\* Unweighted.

## Shopping around in the prices jungles

Abolition of almost all resale price maintenance in 1964 sharpened competition and brought down prices. But recommended retail prices (RRP) or their equivalent—like manufacturer's suggested prices or trade or public guide prices—have now taken over the role of structuring the market.

Now the Price Commission's admirable (if necessarily complex) report on RRP, out this week, gives fresh interest to the question of how far it is worth shopping around in the prices jungle.

The report was a fact-finding exercise, leaving others like Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, to draw conclusions and jump to conclusions. But there is a lot of useful information for the shopper.

The study, covering 87 products in a survey made last October, showed for instance, that excluding discount houses Co-ops were cheapest for clothing, hardware and spirits—and dearest for photographic goods, books and footwear.

Department stores were best for photographic goods, consumer electronics, carpets, footwear and toiletries, but fell down on spirits and fabrics, according to the survey.

Independent stores, usually the smaller outlets, were cheapest for beds, furniture and fabrics, but were most expensive for consumer electronics, clothing, hardware and groceries.

Average discounts at outlets, including the discount houses, ranged between 28 per cent and 1 per cent, with clothing and footwear the least discounted.

But prices for specific items could vary widely whether RRP was used as a benchmark or not, although the study concentrated on those involving recommended prices or prices suggested by trade guides. In general, "own brand" products were excluded from the study.

The commission particularly noted one item as a sector in which there appears to be no

about cc

is a co

performant

## Investor's week

## Pay worries are a damper on the market

It was the week that should have been comfortably dominated by new issues, but brokers set off, with their fees, for July and August holidays.

The BP issue, after all, had had a hot reception, the small man had been given simple elbow room and United States demand was still heavy despite, or perhaps because of, being curtailed in the original issue.

The blue blooded issuing brokers and the clutch of top merchant bankers to the Sotheby Parke Bernet could feel happy that their homework had been done properly. As the early comment on the London & Scottish Marine Oil had been favourable.

But, as ever, best laid plans were upset by external influences. Perhaps dealers should have known this, but expect an easy summer run-down in the unions' conference season, but the spectre of a shattered pay agreement rested heavily on market activity by mid-week.

The account closed last night in very thin dealing and the FT index finished at 442.9, down 5.9 or 1.3 per cent on the period overall and, by coincidence, exactly the same proportion on the week.

The level of dealing all week—reaching a scant 5,114 shares at the Tuesday peak—was barely enough to allow any cost-conscious broker partner an easy night's sleep, but at least business in the market newcomers was heavy.

Sotheby started at a premium of only 18p to the 150p offer price, which upset the stage a little, but the shares subsequently climbed in a satisfactory manner to 169p by the close yesterday, although the big auction rival, Christie's International, has weakened during Sotheby's rise to finish at 67p.

Lasmo has had an interesting week. The existing oil production stock at 322p fluctuated as the market's reaction to the

Ray Maughan

## Investment trusts

## Ivory &amp; Syme clearing the fog

The investment trust sector has experienced a number of false dawns. The market fell distinctly flat after the takeovers of Standard Trust and Estates House, but events this week suggest that progress is being made towards some overdue rationalisation.

This week's prize for the most complicated company statement must go to Edinburgh fund managers Ivory & Syme, who yesterday announced a reorganisation of holdings in Canadian investment trust GBC shared by three companies, British Assets Trust, Edinburgh American Assets Trust and Atlantic Assets Trust.

Ivory & Syme have come in for a good deal of criticism in recent years over some unfortunate forays, notably into the Haw Par Singapore-based trading company, made on behalf of the investment trusts under its wing. More recently, stockbrokers and jobbers have suggested that the more attenuated investment holdings, such as the one in GBC, could do with some simplification.

The nub of the problem for Ivory & Syme, as it is for a good many management companies and their investment

trust shareholders, is the double discount which arises when one trust, itself quoted in the market at a discount on assets, has substantial holdings in another investment trust which suffers in a similar way.

The three investment trusts involved in yesterday's reorganisation owned in varying amounts a total of 80 per cent of the Canadian quoted GBC, partially in the form of direct shareholdings, partly through their wholly-owned unquoted subsidiary Glenis.

GBC itself sells on the Canadian stock market at a discount of between 35 and 40 per cent on assets, and it is the market value of their holdings that the trusts take when reaching their own asset values.

Under the terms of the reorganisation the Atlantic Assets Trust is selling its 28 per cent holding in Glenis, and its direct 10 per cent holding in GBC to British Assets and Edinburgh American Assets, who will own 60 per cent and 20 per cent of GBC apiece, directly, with the Glenis company disappearing under the new arrangements.

The reorganisation enables British Assets and Edinburgh American to include its holdings in GBC on the basis of net

asset, rather than market value, adding 3p and 7p to the net asset value respectively.

Now you see it, now you don't. A number of investment trust observers regard this as nothing more than an accounting manoeuvre—if either of the trusts wished to liquidate their GBC holdings they would have to do so on the basis of market, not asset values.

Ivory & Syme's defence is that it removes the "fog factor" as far as the investment trust shareholders are concerned, while facilitating the use of GBC as an investment vehicle.

The terms of the merger between Cable and Globe, two trusts in the Electra House stable, eliminate some £25m of cross holdings. Like the Ivory & Syme arrangements, the merger does nothing to resolve the basic market problem of an oversupply of investment trust shares, because the cross holdings were fairly held. But it does resolve some worries that part, maybe all, of the shares would be floated out after the revival in investment trust share prices a few months ago.

The merger, however, will eliminate the double discount for Cable and Globe shareholders, increasing net asset value by an estimated 12.6p and 19.7p per share respectively.

The main worry is that it will create a new mammoth £250m investment trust, larger than anything else in the sector, which its critics will no doubt condemn as a purely defensive move.

More central to the problems of the investment trust sector is the decision of the London & Aberdeen to buy voluntary liquidation. Capitalized at about £20m, London & Aberdeen is the largest liquidation to date, but the managers, John Govett & Co, have selected a particularly tortuous situation to unwind.

Seventy per cent of the trust's assets are accounted for by holdings in the Stockholders' Investment Trust and Textland, a United States unlisted oil exploration group. Shareholders are being offered 66.9p worth of Stockholders shares per London & Aberdeen share, plus 24.2p cash from the realisation of other quoted investments.

What Textland will fetch is anybody's guess. A recent valuation of its properties indicated a worth of 49.2p per London & Aberdeen share.

MD

## Time is running out on pensions

Occupational pensions hardly inspire one to stiffen the sinews and summon up the blood, but the 10,000 to 20,000 employers reputed to want to contract out of the new state pension scheme had better summon up something before the closing date in April next year.

At an informal lunch ceremony earlier this week in the rather inappropriate environs of Caxton Hall the first five contracting out certificates were dispensed by Lord Allen of Abbeydale, chairman of the Occupational Pensions Board, whose job it is to scrutinise and approve schemes submitted by those wishing to contract out of the earnings-related part of the state scheme.

So far there are 66 applicants—a drop in the ocean, it is thought, of those employers



Mr C. M. Chavay (right), deputy general manager of the Scottish Widows Fund & Life Assurance Society (Edinburgh), receiving a contracting out certificate this week from Lord Allen of Abbeydale, chairman of the Occupational Pensions Board.

who wish to contract out. It took a long time to produce the first four lucky recipients, (British Steel received two certificates), but as Lord Allen graciously explained, this was the prototype—mass production will follow.

There is a note of urgency, not to mention near panic, in communications to do with pensions from the Department of Health and Social Security, arising from the fear that the Occupational Pensions Board will be snowed under at the launch hour by an avalanche of tardy applicants.

Companies are finding that it is a long time to go to the originally expected to prepare the necessary details before a contracting out scheme is presented to the Occupational Pensions Board for approval.

MD

## Back to basics: annuities

## How to use annuities to boost your income

In practical terms annuities are the reverse of whole life assurance. With the latter, after setting up the arrangement, one pays the life office so long as one lives, at the end of which it pays out a lump sum. With an immediate annuity, one pays the insurance company a lump sum at the outset, and it pays a fixed benefit for one's lifetime—however long that may be.

Originally, this was a good way for the elderly to live off capital, without running the risk of outliving their capital. The insurance company simply goes on paying the benefits for so long as the annuitant is alive. And, not unexpectedly, annuants have a longer life expectancy than average!

For those who want a supplementary pension on "safety" lines, this is one way of employing capital from, say, maturing life policy or a free cash payable from an occupational pension scheme (in addition to the pension for life) at retirement.

In today's conditions, however, there are a number of drawbacks to the traditional form of annuity. One's capital, for instance, is gone for good. Only in exceptional circumstances is it possible to call off the arrangement, and to recover part of the sum which has been paid over.

Nevertheless, although there is that lack of flexibility, protection can be obtained against the loss of premature death. A "capital protected" annuity, for example, can be arranged.

In return for a lower yield from the contract, a guarantee is incorporated to the effect that, should one die before the grace period, the original purchase price paid for the annuity, the life office will pay the balance into one's estate.

Normally, the benefit is fixed when the contract is arranged, and does not increase. As a result of inflation, therefore, its purchasing power will be eroded. While it is possible to arrange an annuity where the benefit increases, since one cannot have one's cake and eat it, this means that there is a reduction in the

initial yield—often to an unacceptably low level.

The yield which an insurance company offers depends on a number of factors, including one's sex and age. Since women have a longer life expectancy than men, the yield for a woman will be lower than for a man at a given age.

Along the same lines that a life office will charge a higher premium for life cover to somebody with a serious health impairment, some offices may be prepared to quote a slightly higher yield under an annuity to somebody in poor health.

One of the main factors affecting the yield which an office can offer is the interest which it can earn when it receives the money. Annuity yields, therefore, can be quite volatile, dependent on market rates of interest. Once an annuity has been bought, neither party can alter the rate of return.

A life office does not have to pay tax on the investment income from its annuity fund so long as this income does not exceed the total payments from the fund. Naturally, life offices aim to keep their funds

in the right balance. At any time there may be one or two offices in the market anxious to write a reasonable volume of annuity business and which are thus offering (probably for a limited period) quite attractive yields compared with the rest of the market.

Given that the security of the office is acceptable, the rate of return is the main factor when choosing a life office from which to buy an annuity. From an individual's point of view, naturally the yield is most attractive at the higher ages of entry, when there is a shorter expectancy of life. Since this is also when the tax position is most favourable, there is generally little or no attraction in thinking of buying an annuity before the age of 65 or later.

Irrespective of the yield obtained, dependent on one's sex, age and the type of annuity being bought, the Inland Revenue looks upon a fixed proportion of each benefit from the life office as being a repayment of one's original capital, and thus it is not taxed. The balance (however much it happens to be) is taxed as investment income.

In the case, for example, of a man aged 65, for each £1,000 paid for an annuity, annual benefits to the extent of £70.45 (ie, rather less than the total benefits payable at today's rates) would be tax-free. For an annuity arranged at the age of 70, the tax-free figure would be £90.71.

Owing to women's longer life expectancy the figures for them are not so attractive, being £57.36 and £72.40 respectively.

A very few offices operate a scheme whereby, as part of a package deal, an elderly person can raise a loan on the house which he or she owns and lives in. Interest is payable on this loan but is eligible for tax relief and the borrowed capital is used to purchase an immediate annuity, so as to provide a supplementary pension after the payment of the interest and income tax on the income element of the benefit.

For those at the younger age levels, term annuities can be used. Here the principle is much the same, but instead of the benefits being payable for life, they continue only for a fixed term.

Some life offices offer special term annuity schemes to those who wish to devote capital to a "Save Your Earn" contract (accepting only monthly payments) or a discounted lump sum for a term annuity (which should meet the monthly cost provided there are no changes for the in one's marginal rate of tax).

Various guaranteed life bonds are still available. Usually, part of the price paid to buy a term annuity provides the actual income, some cases, the bulk of the purchase price is used in a way and some of this is paid to a qualifying policy.

There are other methods. The cash is returned by means of a unitary contract with cash option, both basic rate and higher rate (where applicable) are charged on the amount of the gain—the difference between the part of the purchase price paid for this element and the cash returned at the end of the term.

John Drummond

## New from the TSB...

The Trustee Savings Banks are pushing ahead with plans to offer customers the same back-up financial services as the other "Big Four" high street clearers.

Hopes of introducing personal loan and overdraft facilities last November were thwarted by a pay dispute, but these services could well be on their way for the six million TSB customers next month. At present loans are offered through finance house schemes.

Further expansion on the unit trust side comes on Monday with the launching of a third fund, the TSB Income Unit Trust. It joins the existing TSB General and the Scottish funds and will also supplement the two other store trusts, the TSB Jersey and the TSB Guernsey.

yield of 7.3 per cent. Minimum investment £1,250.

Backing up the trusts are four new insurance plans. The Harvest Savings plan replaces the Guarantee Maturity Plan and can be linked to any of the TSB unit trusts. The emphasis has been placed on improving investment returns rather than on the level of life insurance cover.

Two of the other new policies provide tax-free lump sums on death. The Mortgage Protection Plan will repay the sum outstanding on the mortgage, while the Convertible Insurance Plan allows the holder to change to the Harvest Savings Plan without any further evidence of health.

The Family Income Plan, introduced at the end of 1974, has been updated and revised to bring it more into line with the new schemes. Premium rates have been improved and it is now "very competitive".

Alison Mitchell

on 10/10/77







## MARKET REPORTS

## Commodities

[illegible]

## Commodities

Y230	Dec. 27	£119.25-150.00	March
Y240	Dec. 30	£120.00	March
Aug.	£131.75-151.00	Aug.	£133.75-150.00
<p>Y240: 17-day average, 7.65c.</p>			
<p><b>SOYABEAN MEAL</b> was steady.</p>			
Y240	Dec. 27	£110.50-115.00	Aug.
Aug.	£120.00-125.00	Aug.	£122.00-125.00
<p>Y240: 17-day average, 7.65c.</p>			
<p><b>WOOL</b>: Green, futures were steady.</p>			
<p>( Pence per lb.)—July, 237-35; Oct.,</p>			
<p>237-45; Nov., 237-45; Dec., 237-45.</p>			
<p>May, 237-45; June, 238-48.</p>			
<p>Y240: 17-day average, 7.65c.</p>			
<p><b>JUTE</b> was steady—Bangladesh white</p>			
<p>C grade, Sept.-Oct. \$3.97 per unit</p>			
<p>Oct. 3.97; Nov. 3.97; Dec. 3.97.</p>			
<p>Calcutta was steady—Indian spot,</p>			
<p>Nov. 3.97; Dec. 3.97.</p>			
<p>Pour, spot, \$4.50.</p>			
<p>Y240: 17-day average, 7.65c.</p>			
<p><b>GRAIN</b>: The following—</p>			
<p>Canadian hard red spring No. 1,</p>			
<p>15¢ per cent; July, \$2.75; Sept. Oct.,</p>			
<p>2.75; Nov., 2.75; Dec., 2.75.</p>			
<p>spring No. 2, 14¢ per cent; Sept. Oct.,</p>			
<p>2.75; Nov., 2.75; Dec., 2.75.</p>			
<p>Y240: 17-day average, 7.65c.</p>			

**New York, July 8.**—The New York stock market closed mixed today, backing away from a broad early gain.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 1.52 points at 967.39. However, advancing issues led decliners 880 to 550. Gainers led by almost three-to-one early in the session.

Brokers attributed early buying to the fall of 0.6 per cent in the June wholesale price index—AP.

**Dow Jones**

**US gold closes higher**

**New York, July 8.**—U.S. GOLD SUMMER

[illegible][illegible]

# Homeless Bill How anyone demand a h

**With It**

**House**

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Anthony Sainbury (t  
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## Bank Base Rates

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Rossminster Accts	81%
Shenley Trust .....	111%
Williams & Glyn's	81%

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133	100	Airsprung 18% CULS	134	—	5.8	13.8
35	25	Armitage & Rhodes	34	—	3.0	8.8
143	95	Deborah Ord	140	—	8.2	5.9
149	104	Deborah 17% CULS	149	—	17.5	11.8
134	120	Frederick Parker	134	—	11.5	8.6
88	45	Henry Sykes	88	—	2.4	2.7
83	55	James Burrough	84	—	6.0	7.1
286	188	Robert Jenkins	277	—	25.0	9.1
24	8	Twilock Ord	9	—	—	—
67	54	Twilock 12% ULS	63	—	12.0	19.0
64	51	Unilock Holdings	64	—	6.1	9.6
77	65	Walter Alexander	76	—	5.8	7.6

## Wall Street

New York, July 2.—The New York stock market closed mixed today, backing away from a broad early gain.

The Dow Jones Industrial average was down 1.51 points at 907.99. However, advancing issues led decliners 890 to 550. Gainers led by almost three-to-one early in the session.

Brokers attributed early buying to the fall of 0.6 per cent in the June wholesale price index.—AP.

Dow Jones

## US gold closes higher

New York, May 8.—U.S. Gold shipments to Europe during the first half of the international monetary market and the second half of the year 1944 were over on the 1944 was moderately high, according to a report by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. The report, which dealt with actual gold shipments, estimated that the total for the year will be about \$1.5 billion. The report also stated that the first half of the year was only slightly better than the second half of the year 1943. The report also stated that the first half of the year was only slightly better than the second half of the year 1943. The report also stated that the first half of the year was only slightly better than the second half of the year 1943.

## Recent Issues

[illegible]

## Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

PARLIAMENT, July 8, 1977.

# Homeless Bill will not allow anyone to demand a house

**House of Commons**

When the Housing (Homeless Persons) Bill was considered on report a new clause (Duty of housing authorities to provide accommodation for persons of no fixed property) was added to the Bill. Its effect would be to place a duty on housing authorities to take reasonable steps to protect the right of property of the homeless or those threatened with homelessness.

Mr Hugh Ross (Hartlepool, Hornsey, C) for the Opposition, moved a new clause (Duty to notify decision to refuse to house) which obliged local authorities to give notice and reasons in writing whether or not a person was housed, and whether or not a person found to be homeless was a priority case. It was right that local authorities should notify the applicant in writing of their decision.

He said a great deal of time had been spent in committee discussing the problems that could arise if a local authority was obliged to "take advantage of an absolute obligation to re-house the homeless."

On second reading MPs on both sides expressed concern over what they termed self-induced homelessness. They said that a great deal of someone living in not very attractive private rented accommodation and aware of an ambitious programme for council housing was being encouraged by the local authority. In those circumstances the tenant might stop paying rent to his landlord or start breaking obligations under his tenancy. He would not defend the action when the landlord brought the case for possession order and would automatically have a judgment for possession made against him.

He said that he thought he would be entitled to tell his local authority: "I am homeless. You are not entitled to ask how I became homeless. I will accept the definition of homelessness under Clause 1 of the Bill and therefore you must re-house me."

He said that he was not sure where some people would simply be seeking to queue-jump. The majority of those who were dealing themselves with the burden of taking in and re-housing others from all over the country in priority to their own needs would be those who were at committee stage that the Bill had to be revised to remove from local authorities the obligation to house a person trying to work the system, but the committee did not succeed in finding the correct kind of change.

"The minister had kindly offered to make his department and the parliamentary draftsman available to me to discuss the provisions of the Bill and himself to produce a form of words that gave precise legal effect to the expressed intention of the Bill."

The wording before them was

Governments wording proposed Parliamentary draftsman effect to the unanimous of the committee.

Mr Timothy Sainsbury (said that unless they stood with the Bill at this stage it sent it to the Lords there great risk that there would be a change in the situation homeless for six months months or a year.

It was not getting a sure note the statute book if it could be changed in the aspects of it which in the opinion of some left too much discretion to authorities.

With these amendments would meet the points of committee. If there were defects they could be de-finitely in the Lords.

Mr Ernest Armstrong, (Leeds, West Durham, Lab) said been involved in recent in a great number of discussions with the committee concerned about the Bill a local authorities up and a company, it had been given a great many different genuine anxieties at both the spectrum, first about and he stressed that they were not people who would play the system and deceive selves homeless.

He said that he was not sure that the words he thought it should be in the Bill the homeless. The words would be going backwards and forwards. There were some of the kind of wording that would be going backwards and forwards.

In the light of this today, and he was not sure would agree to the amendments.

He said that he would talk to the draftsman before reconsideration of the Bill in the Lords.

He said that he was not in committee and the way was an attempt to reduce anxieties.

In the light of what he said about reconsidering what to the parliamentary men before the Bill went to the Lords, he accepted the clause.

Mr Stephen Ross (Sale of L.) sponsor of the Bill, said was a bit concerned about the amendments that had been given to some areas that it was going to be character for to move from district to district.

It was not for that. So or other this had to be in it. It would be made a great advantage if the Bill did not give people a right to a home.

The new clause was agreed.

The second stage was read and the Bill read the third House adjourned, 6.56 pm.

## Britain has moral duty to seek change in S Africa

Opening a debate on the Government's attitude towards the United States policy on southern Africa, Lord Chalfont (Ind. Lab.) said that the Government's policy in the West should be to encourage the desire in southern Africa for peaceful change that was not based on force but on justice. A stable, prosperous and friendly South Africa (he said) is of immense importance for the peace and security of the West.

It was clearly a priority of Soviet foreign policy to establish itself as a reality, politically and strategically, in southern Africa; it is the expense of the West.

The Government should consider that the Westmen's model of "one man one vote" was not the answer to South Africa's problems. They should encourage changes that were taken by the South African Government, not policies that would drive the white people there into a position of intransigence, causing the United States to take action. Lady Elles (C., for the Opposition) said the threat of Marxism would be all the more serious if the Government did not recognize the rights of the black people to create opportunities for themselves.

Africans themselves know (she said) that Marxist economic theory is old fashioned and has proved to be wrong wherever it has been introduced. They know their historic and social traditions. They should recognize African and encourage African leadership and assistance from outside sources. That was the policy they should pursue in cooperation with the United States.

White people should not be encouraged to leave Rhodesia because they would open the door to disaster there. Instead they should do everything possible to

guarantee the lives and property of white Rhodesians to ensure that they could remain. A peaceful settlement in Rhodesia would create a better prospect for change in South Africa.

Lord Gladwyn (L.) said it should do everything in her power to persuade the South African Government to abandon the last relic of the policy of apartheid and put members of the Government into positions of responsibility in the civil service.

Lord Gorenvay-Roberts, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said Britain was not the first to suggest the United States and so had that been more evidence more necessary than in the case of policy towards South Africa.

Both we and the Americans said acknowledge that the United States of course has so serious a problem in South Africa, however without the weight of their moral, political and economic influence behind them, they could not ensure a settlement in Rhodesia was sought.

There had been evidence changes in South Africa and Britain should encourage to those seeking to maintain and develop the consensus for peaceful change.

The real cause of threat in the West's interests in South Africa were the policies of the Government of South Africa. It was practical duty to press for so that a new society could be created by all South African people together in peace, justice, and equality.

The debate was concluded.

The Town and Country Planning Commission Bill

Deer Hill were read the third time and passed.

House adjourned, 4.35 p.m.

## Peer protests at waste of EEC skimmed milk

Upper Parliament, Luxembourg.

The waste of the existing EEC milk marketing was scandalous and was far beyond any normal buffer stock arrangements of the community. Lord Bruce of Donington (Lab.) said that the debate on the food programme.

It would be far cheaper to give skimmed milk powder away to the country rather than resist the surplus which he said was a terrible blight (Netherlands).

Mr. G. C. van der Grinten (C), presenting a report from the committee on development and agriculture, said demand and supply could be met by a programme for help from the programme far exceeded what was available under EEC restrictions.

It was his Commission said that so many such applications had been received and how much it had been asked for.

It is unacceptable (he said) if the need for the poorest countries for the quantities of skimmed milk powder, at our supplies to these countries cannot be increased because of the existing limit for the fodder in Europe.

Skimmed milk powder was now manufactured with a high nutritional value and should go to the people who need it most. The Commission should ensure that necessary finance was made available to increase the food aid programme.

He moved a resolution calling for the release without delay of the food instalments under the 7 million tonne food aid programme of 14 million tons of

account for 45,000 tons of powder. It also requested the Commission to draw up a plan for the next few months on information on a new distribution system was worked out.

Lord Bruce of Donington said food aid was becoming a political football. The costs of a programme of combined wheat and skimmed milk powder would be a great deal more than it was and became useless, if it was not to be cheaper and that it would be.

The Guddu Brainer, Commissioner for Africa, said they wanted to give grain to the poorest countries and to make sure it got to the poorest sections of the populations.

On the food aid should be increased and the commission continued pressing the Commission Ministers to release the second instalment of 14 million tons of account.

It was not correct to say that they had unlimited expansion of food aid all the problems of storage and storage costs would be solved.

They considered that 150,000 tons of skimmed milk powder, 45,000 tons of butter oil was meant for 1977, but there was no need to release it.

They wanted the continuation of a joint Community standpoint, this had not always been possible because of the contradictory priorities should know and that was being given here and that why the Commission did not do any increase in butter oil and the resources.

The resolution was agreed to



## A trickle of buying

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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## هكذا من الأهل



**Photographs by Trevor Sutton**

lary, spoons. Spoons as love objects have never, I must admit, attracted my before, but now as first objects. Shown here are two goblets, hand raised with chased stems and a collection of table spoons. He showed me how to pur in the "rat tail" at the back—each one hand forged and finished as an individual piece. The graceful serving spoon is made of silver, and I think he has made, this is 22in. commissioned for Bush Gardens in Virginia, where there is an

On the silver market level, Viners have some very pretty reproduction designs, and I liked their "Age of Scandal" range in silver plate—each piece has its own story, they are all reproduction of old designs, and none the worse for it. I was very much impressed with a display of silver and jewelry on show until July 30 and so are the prize-winners of the Johnson

Mathey Silver Awards for the past two years. And at Goldsmith's Hall itself, Foster Lane EC2 is an exhibition called Loot, with silver and jewelry from £1 to £100, until July 16.


Now I come to think of it, the first Loot exhibition was only two years ago, and it was under £50 - up 100 per cent in two years? Might I suggest to an entrepreneur of vision and enterprise that we, as well as Greece, Africa and the Arab countries, are a market ripe for happy heads? One set for every man, woman and child, and you make a killing, as the phrase goes.

**Jocelyn Burton: 50c Red Lion Street, WC1. William Phipps, c/o Crafts Advisory Committee, 12 Waterloo Place, SW1.**

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Size 74-76 \$50.00  
Size 76-78 \$52.00  
Size 78-80 \$54.00  
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Size 92-94 \$68.00  
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